

Rachel, Hayden, set to marry?  
pg 26



Dartmouth rink off to show heart  
pg 15



Academy Awards

Movies

- Metro's movie reviewers weigh in on who deserves an Oscar, pg 18
- Let them speak, say readers, pg 19

Music

- Alan Cross pits this year's best original song nominees against past winners, pg 23

Television

- Ben Mulroney reveals details of etalk's red carpet Oscar special, pg 24

Sunday

- Movie reviewer Chris Alexander offers his opinion on the Academy Awards broadcast as the envelopes are opened at metronews.ca

Monday

- Be sure to read Monday's recap of who won, and Enza Anderson's critique of red carpet fashions.



U.S. President Barack Obama walks past an RCMP honour guard after arriving Thursday in Ottawa. Obama's visit was his first trip outside the U.S. since becoming president. More coverage, page 8.

President munches on ObamaTail

**TASTY TREAT** U.S. President Barack Obama gave a local high school student the thrill of her life when he decided to satisfy his sweet tooth with a Canadian delicacy: That sugar-coated, deep-fried pastry called a BeaverTail.

"I was screaming up and down," said 17-year-old Jessica Milien when a U.S. Secret Service agent appeared at the window of the BeaverTail hut on George Street and said the president had asked for one of the hot pastries during a surprise stop in the historic Byward Market.

"My co-worker was nice enough to be like, 'Go ahead, Jessica, we know you love him so much. Go ahead,'" said Milien. She chose to make him the ObamaTail — a version of the dessert coated with cinnamon and sugar and topped with a whipped-cream "O" drizzled with chocolate sauce and maple butter that Ottawa-based BeaverTails Canada Inc. created in honour of the president and served at the Canadian embassy in Washington, D.C., during last month's presidential inauguration.

Hundreds had lined the streets to catch a glimpse of the presidential motorcade Thursday as it sped through downtown Ottawa.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Welcome

- Thousands gathered on the lawn of Parliament Hill had roared when Obama paused to wave from behind bullet-proof glass as he arrived for his meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and then again when he left the building.

Riding the Recession

Looking for ways to save money and ride out the economic storm? For the next six weeks, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Canada

- How independent businesses are trying to attract new customers, pg 9

Next week

- Comment — Anne Hines looks for humour in the economic downturn.
- Workology — Tips for employees feeling survivor syndrome when their co-workers are laid off.
- Food — How to grocery shop on a tighter budget.



# Whirlwind visit

## Obama's Visit

**Barack Obama swept aside eight years of jangled Canadian nerves and cross-border tensions Thursday, singling out his northern neighbour as the first choice for a new American partnership with the world.**

In a lightning visit designed to turn a fresh page in Canada-U.S. relations and tamp down trade worries, Obama made all the right sounds, including a declaration that, "I love this country and think that we could not have a better friend and ally."

It was consummate Obama — a charm offensive the likes of which Ottawa has seldom, if ever, seen.

**"I love this country and think that we could not have a better friend and ally."**

U.S. President Barack Obama

And it was reciprocated, from the rock star welcome for his motorcade to the thrilled cheers of those who witnessed the president's unscheduled hunt for souvenirs in the capital's Byward Market.

The day was a triumph, too, for Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who found his level with Obama in an expansive question-and-answer session with journalists, the only unscripted moment of a carefully scheduled day.

Despite big differences in philosophy and style,

Obama and Harper presented a common front on issues as varied as the war in Afghanistan, reversing the recession and pushing back the hot-button issue of trade protectionism.

Obama called the development of clean energy "one of the most pressing challenges of our time" but also conceded there were no "silver bullets."

But the agreement, which won cautious praise as a good first step, was hardly the centrepiece of a day intended as a symbolic break with the Bush era.

Instead, tone triumphed over substance as Obama used the first foreign trip of his presidency to broadcast to Canada and the world his clear intention to "work with friends and partners to meet the common challenges of our time."

"The United States is once again ready to lead, but strong leadership depends on strong alliances and strong alliances depend on constant renewal ... That's the work that we've begun here today," Obama told a Parliament Hill news conference.

He pledged to do "everything that I can" to make sure Canada-U.S. relations become ever stronger in the coming years.

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**Teardown of MacKay K-ramp on Halifax side**

Going across the bridge this weekend? Beware the MacKay. From Friday at 7 p.m. until 5:30 a.m. Monday, the Barrington Street exit and entrance ramps will be closed, as will the Windsor/Robie to Barrington ramp.

METRO HALIFAX

3

## Local



## Crossing borders

Canadians took 739,000 trips to countries outside the U.S. in December 2008, up 4.4 per cent from the month before. But we took four per cent fewer trips to the U.S. in December. And Americans are doing the same; in 2008, they took 12 per cent fewer trips to Canada.

METRO HALIFAX

## Mo' snow means mo' money

PAUL MCLEOD  
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As Mayor Peter Kelly sat at his desk Thursday, gazing out the window, he saw money falling from the sky.

But not in a good way.

No, all he could think of was the cost to remove all that snow, and how little cash HRM has left to do it with.

"Every time I see a plow go by, it's just more money," he said wistfully.

Earlier this week HRM staff told Metro News the city had burnt through its entire snow removal budget. Kelly said that was a mistake, and there's actually about \$2.5 million left. There's also a \$1.5 million reserve.

That seems like a lot, but the last snowfall at the beginning of the month cost about \$1.8 million to get rid of all of the snow. An average snowfall could cost up to \$1 million.

As to what happens when the money runs out, Kelly said it'll have to be cut from other departments. Last year snow removal spending was \$8



A woman wears a plastic shopping bag on her head as she trudges along Barrington Street during Thursday's winter storm.

million over budget, and that's not looking impossible this time around.

Kelly said the government will look at cutting down "inefficiencies" and things like not filling vacant positions to try to save some money. He said under no circumstances

will the plows stop.

But he said he expects the budget to be ramped up next year to better handle the winter workload.

"Before these last two years, we were getting less snow. Now here we are in the last few years we seem to be getting more snow. So

we need to be more (respectful) of reality," he said.

Thursday's snowfall was particularly bad in that it hit during the day. Malls, all city facilities and almost everything else were closed for the evening.

In case you're wondering, spring comes in 31 days.

## Officer charged with assaulting suspect

RACHEL BOOMER  
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Halifax Regional Police have charged one of their own with assault causing bodily harm for allegedly hitting a suspect in the face.

Const. Duane Stanley was on duty at the force's Burnside headquarters on Mellor Avenue Jan. 23 when a 36-year-old man was arrested

for breaking into vehicles.

Police allege Stanley punched the man, leaving him with facial injuries. He was taken to hospital, treated, and released; he appeared in court later that day.

Police spokesman Const. Jeff Carr said he couldn't speak to the circumstances of the alleged crime, since Stanley is now before the courts.

## Internal handling

• If a police officer is convicted of a crime, discipline under the provincial Police Act can range anywhere from a reprimand to dismissal.

"An investigation was launched into the incident immediately after it happened, by a supervisor,"

Carr said. The police force's Integrated General Investigative Section handled that investigation, which took just under a month.

"There's no standard length of investigation," said Carr.

Stanley has been suspended with pay pending the outcome of his court case. He'll appear in Dartmouth provincial court March 31.

## Maritimers not as book-happy as we think

Nova Scotians like to boast we have the highest percentage of university-educated people in the country, but the statistic behind that claim isn't telling the whole truth, according to a new study.

The Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission released a set of 10 measures of participation Thursday that breaks down why university participation rates in the Maritimes are higher than the national average.

"The usual conclusion is, 'Nova Scotia has a really high participation rate.' Well, yes and no," says Mireille Duguay, chief executive officer of the commission.

"The 'no' is why we went into all of these measures."

With a plump 40 per cent of people aged 18 to 24 enrolled in university, Nova Scotia does have a higher-than-average student rate. The catch? That number is inflated by

non-Nova Scotian students. Duguay says when you take out the students from the rest of Canada and beyond, we become distinctly average.

"It's much more comparable. There's not that much variation across the three (Maritime) provinces."

That means it's not that Nova Scotians love their higher education, but that universities here are better than others at recruiting students from away.

JON TATTIE/METRO HALIFAX

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

**Analysis** What the president and the prime minister gained from yesterday's brief tour at

metronews.ca

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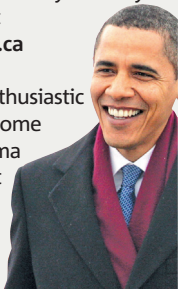
Barack Obama

to Ottawa at

metro

news.ca

/canada





Parents of autistic children, autism advocates and government staffers are working on ways to help people with autism. Six people will evaluate how government can better help autistic kids and their families. About 7,500 people in the province, or one in 150, have the disorder. **METRO HALIFAX**

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## Teens arrested in X-Box theft

**CRIME** RCMP arrested two 14-year-olds and a 17-year-old early Thursday morning after a 15-year-old Eastern Shore teen was robbed in his home with a knife.

At 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, three boys confronted the victim with a knife, taking an X-Box, several games and a laptop. They told the victim not to call police, and the crime wasn't reported until the victim's mother got home. The suspects will appear in youth court March 12.

• A would-be robber pulled a gun on a victim on Barrington Street last night, attacking the man before fleeing on foot.

The assault occurred near Scotia Square at 8:19 p.m. Police say the robber approached the victim, a 30-year-old man, and demanded his bag. The victim refused and the attacker struck him in the face with the gun before running away. Police say the

attacker was a light-skinned black male between 20 and 25 years of age, about six feet tall, skinny and with no facial hair. He wore a light-blue hooded jacket.



• Halifax police's integrated drug section busted an apparent drug shop on Rufus Avenue in Fairview Thursday. Cops seized marijuana, scales, packaging,

drug paraphernalia, cash and a quantity of illegal cigarettes. Two men and one woman were arrested on charges of possession for the purpose of trafficking, and later released.

• The drug squad was busy in Dartmouth, too. The integrated drug section raided a residence on Rosedale Drive, seizing marijuana, 75 ecstasy pills, scales, packaging, drug paraphernalia and cash.

A man and woman were arrested and released on charges of possession for the purpose of trafficking.

• RCMP also charged two 19-year-old men with possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking after watching an alleged drug deal in Eastern Passage Wednesday night.

Police seized 22 grams of marijuana and some money; the suspects will be in Dartmouth court Mar. 18.

**METRO HALIFAX**



Ian Burton, a technical officer with the National Research Council, shows some of the equipment at the new NRC Biomolecular Magnetic Resonance Facility Thursday.

## MRI brings new life to booming sector

Researchers optimistic for \$4M machine

**RACHEL BOOMER**  
rachel.boomer@metronews.ca

**Deep in the National Research Council's Oxford Street headquarters sits a brand new \$4-million masterpiece: the world's most sensitive biomolecular MRI.**

And researchers are optimistic the new MRI facility, officially opened Thursday, will help bolster a growing life-sciences sector in Halifax.

"If a major, life-threatening disease sweeps across our nation, then issues like the fuel efficiency of your hybrid SUV may be less important to you," said Donald Weaver, a Dalhousie University drug researcher who's been involved in five biotech startup companies.

"Having a facility like this is more likely to result in a biotech company wanting to be here. The more companies come here, the better it is for employment, the better it is for the regional economy."

The new facility will al-

**"Having a facility like this is more likely to result in a biotech company wanting to be here. The more companies come here, the better it is for employment, the better it is for the regional economy."**

Donald Weaver,  
Dalhousie University drug researcher

low researchers to examine in greater detail how certain drugs interact with proteins in the body, and will help them study blood, tissues or other cells in greater detail.

Private sector, government and university scientists will be able to use the facility.

Previously, Weaver said, drug researchers would have to test thousands of versions of drugs to find one that would react well; now, they can cut that number substantially.

That will save time and money in drug R&D.

Scientists can also use just a fraction of the sample sizes they once needed, and can ensure their molecular samples are in pure form.

Down the road, Weaver said, that means a new and important industry for the local economy.

"The health sector and the biomedical sector is going to be so hugely important to national and international economies in the coming years. This is a sector we've got to pay attention to."

Roman Szumski, vice-president of the National Research Council, said Halifax is a perfect place for the new MRI.

"Halifax has a very good track record of doing good things with sophisticated equipment, so it's a good place to make this sort of investment," Szumski said.

There are 55 core life-sciences companies in Nova Scotia.

### News in brief

**APPLES** Ottawa will plant \$218,000 into Valley apple orchards over the next four years. The money will be used to graft between 30 and 50 existing apple varieties onto apple trees. Apples are big business in the Maritimes; in 2006, more than \$1.3 billion worth of Maritime apples were sold, and in 2007 more than 45,000

tonnes of apples brought in close to \$14 million.

**AWARDS** The province handed out 32 exemplary service medals to corrections staff yesterday. Each must have 20 years of full-time service. Of the 32 people recognized, four were from Halifax: Gary Farmer, of the Halifax Youth Attendance Centre; Wayne

Horner, a senior probation officer; Diana MacKinnon of Correctional Services; and probation officer Kyle Patterson.

**AUTOPSY** An autopsy done Wednesday confirmed the death of a 50-something man found dead in a Charlotte Lane apartment Tuesday night was not suspicious.

**METRO HALIFAX**



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Nova Scotia has endorsed a national strategy that would see all city and town waste water treatment facilities brought to a higher standard over the next 10 to 30 years. Halifax will have to upgrade its sewage treatment plans at some point from advanced primary treatment to the higher secondary level. **METRO HALIFAX**

# Honesty is best policy

## Examining aftermath of Maple Leaf listeriosis outbreak

JON TATTRIE  
for Metro Halifax

**Politicians and public relations people take note: The Maple Leaf Foods crisis proves that honesty really is the best policy.**

Terry Flynn, a communications expert at McMaster University's Degroote School of Business, studied the corporation's reaction to the listeriosis outbreak last summer that saw 20 people die.

"This is a great example of reputational management, financial/customer management and communications management," Flynn said Thursday at a Canadian Public Relations Society meeting in Halifax.

Flynn used information gathered by Leger Marketing, which ranks Canadian companies' reputations. In May 2008, before the crisis, Maple Leaf had a middle-of-the-pack 74 per cent score. A week after the listeriosis news broke in August, it



Terry Flynn, a communications management professor at McMaster University, talks Thursday with Metro Halifax at the Westin Nova Scotian. Flynn presented a study of Maple Leaf Foods' response during last year's listeriosis outbreak.

sank to 46 per cent.

"Their stock price also dropped 21 to 25 per cent in that first week. It's an interesting correlation," Flynn said.

Maple Leaf president

Michael McCain headed the crisis response, admitting the mistake and opening the plant doors to the media. He bought TV and newspaper advertising to apologize and promise change.

McCain made a point of not talking to his lawyers or accountants, Flynn said.

"It's amazing for them to say, 'We know we'll have legal issues and financial issues, but this is about doing the right thing for the customers.'"

By January, Maple Leaf's reputation had rebounded to 63 per cent. Its score rose 31 per cent among existing customers. The stock price was at \$10.90 and falling the day before the crisis; today it sits at \$11.

"In the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, they pulled out of it and have a higher market value," Flynn said.

Across the board, Maple Leaf received a 10 per cent bump from the transparency-first policy.

"This is a game changer. We've been able to isolate the return on investment. Maple Leaf has become the gold standard of how to respond to a crisis," Flynn concluded.

# Fund continues to draw political fire

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agency dedicated to attracting and growing Nova Scotia businesses.

Premier Rodney MacDonald suggested McNeil just didn't understand the IEF, and called it a valuable tool for economic growth.

"What we've seen is the success of having both agencies and the flexibility of the IEF. So I don't think that (McNeil)

quite understands the process," said MacDonald.

"There's a reason why successive governments and successive premiers have continued with this fund, of different political stripes. Because it works. And when something works, you should continue it."

The \$175 million doesn't actually appear on the province's books because it is money that is borrowed and then loaned out again, usually, but not always, in interest-bearing loans to businesses.

## More criticism

- The NDP have also criticized the IEF for lack of standards or regulations, and said they would make changes to the fund.

The Liberals promised Thursday they would abolish the Industrial Expansion Fund if elected. But the Tories continue to defend the fund as a valuable tool.

Earlier this week, the opposition parties accused the Tories of investing in a slush fund when they topped up the IEF by \$175 million. Cabinet can take that money and loan it out to businesses.

"Politics has no place in the loan business," Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil said Thursday in a press release.

"I believe this province's greatest opportunities for prosperity are created when business decisions are made by business people and not by politicians."

McNeil said he would fold the IEF and put the funds under the control of Nova Scotia Business Inc., an

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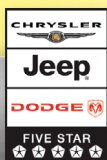
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**A New Hope play at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic postponed**

The first performance of Shelly Hamilton's one-woman play has been postponed to Feb. 21 due to yesterday's storm. **METRO HALIFAX**

local 7



Frequent and proper hand washing is one way to prevent the spread of colds.

## Colds not inevitable

RACHEL BOOMER

rachel.boomer@metronews.ca

**"When the number one ingredient of something is sugar, you're basically shutting your immune system down."**

Jill McChesney, nurse and homeopath

**Just because it's common doesn't mean you have to get a cold this winter.**

Toronto-based nurse and homeopath Jill McChesney says revamping your diet, extra vitamins, solid sleep and careful hand-washing can keep you sniffle-free even when everyone around you is Germ Central.

"Repeated antibiotic use depletes your body's defences," says McChesney.

She said it's important to get the body's natural immune system up to peak strength by eating lots of colourful vegetables and fruits — anything red, green, orange or yellow. Think citrus, avocados, broccoli, and lots of nuts for natural zinc.

At the very least, she said, cut out the sugar.

"When the number one ingredient of something is sugar, you're basically shutting your immune system down," McChesney said.

"As parents, we think we're doing good when we give our kids juice, but when you look at the ingredients, it's high in fructose. They're vulnerable. Have water."

If you can't hack the oranges and avocados, pick up some vitamin A, C, and D. Zinc helps if you take it at the first signs of a cold.

Stop burning the midnight oil. People who get a full eight hours fight off

germs better.

We all know we're supposed to wash our hands, but McChesney says most of us don't do it right. Make sure the water is hot enough, wash between fingers, and keep going for a good 10 seconds — try singing a song while you do it.

For kids, draw pictures of germs to explain why they need to wash so often.

Get fun kids' soap, and change towels more than once a week.

She also recommends changing your dishcloth as often as possible, cleaning out sink drain traps and replacing your toothbrush several times a year.

## Truro family still traumatized by blaze

**BIBLE HILL** A fire that left a family homeless almost a month ago continues to evoke moments of fear.

"If I hear the heat cracking or feel the heat from the oven, it gives me butterflies," said Damien Wile.

Wile, his wife, Tanya Pine, and their children, five-year-old Cece and six-month-old Isabella, along with Tanya's sister Jessica McDonald, fled from their Salmon River home Jan. 27 at 1 a.m. when a fire tore through their house, leaving them with virtually nothing. The family did

not have home insurance.

"As of now it's still almost all gone ... we have about one per cent of our belongings," Wile said.

Fire-stained clothes, a Christmas ornament, a headboard and footboard off of an adult and child's bed, and charred photo albums are among the few items that remain.

For Wile's wife, the most devastating loss was ultrasound pictures of baby Isabella that were proudly displayed for all to see.

"That's really hard ... and can't be replaced," said

Pine.

They only moved into the house last summer.

"The furniture was all new and we re-did almost the whole house ... a lot of work and pride went into it," said Wile.

The family is searching for a home and in the meantime are staying with his parents in Bible Hill. There are 10 people under one roof.

Community members were planning a dance Friday to help raise donations for the family.

THE TRURO DAILY NEWS

### News in brief

**HUNT** Seal hunters in Cape Breton received some timely help from the Fur Institute of Canada in their efforts to hunt the grey seals of Hay Island. The Fur Institute lined up another buyer, NuTan Furs Inc., of Catalina, N.L., which agreed to buy up to

200 grey seal pelts. It also entered into a contract with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to co-ordinate a study of animal welfare aspects of grey seal hunting practices involving veterinarians who observed Monday's Hay Island harvest.

**GRANT** Pictou is one of 10 municipalities that will receive extra funding through a new grant in lieu of taxes. The estimated \$2.8-million grant in lieu is available for the municipalities who house provincially owned court-houses.

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Ten million extra condoms are being handed out, slum residents are creating huge floats and Barack Obama masks are flying off the shelves. Brazil's Carnival, the pre-Lenten festival of hedonism, takes off this weekend despite the best attempts of the economic crisis to drag it down to earth. The number of foreign tourists is expected to fall by about 10 per cent this year. **REUTERS**

# World



## Sharks feeling the bite

Even the sharks are feeling the impact of the global economic slowdown. Shark attacks on humans dropped worldwide in 2008 to their lowest level in five years, apparently because the recession has curtailed seaside vacations, researchers who compile the annual tally said on Thursday.

**REUTERS**

## 3 cleared in reporter's death

Watchdog slams Russia's failure to solve journalists' murders

**A Moscow court acquitted three men of involvement in the murder of Kremlin critic and journalist Anna Politkovskaya Thursday, leaving Russia's most politically charged killing in years still unsolved.**

The prosecution said it would appeal but the failure to secure a single conviction for the crime — the most high-profile in a spate of reporters' killings — raised questions about Russia's resolve to protect freedom of speech.

The failure to solve the murders of journalists

### Danger ranking

- The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists ranks Russia as the world's third most dangerous place for reporters, after Iraq and Algeria.

amounts to a human rights crisis, a European media freedom watchdog said on Thursday.

"The masterminds have never been put on the bench. The accused were not even the actual killers

— is it not possible to find them or convict them? This failure amounts to a human rights crisis," Miklos Haraszti of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe told Reuters.

After a four-month trial, the jury forewoman said brothers Dzhabrail and Ibragim Makhmudov were not guilty of acting as accomplices in the murder and cleared former police officer Sergei Khadzhikurbanov of organizing the crime.

Politkovskaya, a 48-year-old mother of two who published scathing exposes of official corruption and rights abuses, was shot dead in the elevator of her apartment building on Oct. 7, 2006, after returning home from the supermarket.

**REUTERS**



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## Ukraine **Protesting history**



Pro-Russian protesters hold a demonstration denouncing the historic transfer of the Crimean peninsula to Ukraine in Simferopol on Thursday. Soviet authorities transferred the province to the Ukrainian Soviet Republic in 1954. It became part of independent Ukraine after the Soviet Union collapsed, much to the grief of many ethnic Russians in the region.

STRINGER / REUTERS

## NASA launches spacecraft to seek Earth-like planets

**SCIENCE** A U.S. spacecraft toting the biggest camera ever sent into space will be launched next month to scour our region of the Milky Way galaxy for warm, rocky planets like Earth that may also host life, NASA said on Thursday.

The Kepler spacecraft is scheduled to spend 3-1/2 years looking at more than 100,000 stars similar to our sun, seeking evidence of planets similar in size and composition to Earth.

Kepler is scheduled to blast off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida aboard a Delta II rocket on March 5, the U.S. space agency said.

"Kepler will push back the boundaries of the unknown in our patch of the Milky Way galaxy. And its discoveries may fundamentally alter humanity's view of itself," Jon Morse,

### Maiden voyage

- The spacecraft is named for Johannes Kepler, the German astronomer who lived from 1571 to 1630 and studied planetary motion.
- NASA said the mission will cost \$591 million.

director of NASA's astrophysics division, told reporters.

About 300 planets orbiting stars other than our sun have been discovered since 1995, but most are large gas planets that are not likely to be hospitable to life.

This mission is intended to find rocky planets orbiting in the "habitable zone" around a star where they are not so close as to be scorched and not so far away as to be frozen. **REUTERS**

## French sub more damaged than reported: Newspaper

**COLLISION** The French nuclear-armed submarine that collided with a British submarine is more damaged than the government reported, a regional newspaper said on Thursday.

France's defence ministry officials, under fire for initially saying the missile-loaded submarine had rammed a submerged object, probably a container, said it would be out of service for several months but details were secret.

"We have given the details we can give, which is, the sonar dome was damaged," navy spokesman Jerome Erulin said Thursday. Newspaper **alca** Ouest

France said in an un-sourced report the submarine's conning tower and its immersion controls had also been damaged, and that this raised questions about France's nuclear deterrent capacity.

France and Britain have said the two submarines — Le Triomphant and HMS Vanguard — collided at low speed because both were designed to be silent and invisible.

France said on Feb. 6 that Le Triomphant had hit an object, probably a container, as it was returning from a mission. It later turned out that it ran into the Vanguard on the night of Feb. 3 to 4. **REUTERS**

## Backing boosts Netanyahu in Israeli PM race

Benjamin Netanyahu's chances of becoming Israel's prime minister were boosted on Thursday by the conditional backing of an ultra-nationalist politician who emerged as a kingmaker in a photo-finish election.

Avigdor Lieberman, leader of the Yisrael Beit-einu party, recommended to President Shimon Peres that he choose Netanyahu to form a government, if the right-wing Likud chief

### Narrow majority

- With Lieberman's support, Netanyahu has the backing of some 65 legislators, enough for a narrow, governing majority of right-wing and Jewish religious parties.

pursued a broad coalition. Netanyahu has said he would do so.

Peres could announce as

early as Friday whether he will ask Netanyahu or centrist Kadima chief Tzipi Livni, Israel's foreign minister, to put together a governing coalition.

Livni and Netanyahu both laid claim to the premiership after Kadima won 28 seats in the 120-member parliament to Likud's 27 in an inconclusive Feb. 10 election that deepened uncertainty about peace moves with the Palestinians. **REUTERS**

### News in brief

**SPITZER** A U.S. federal judge ordered the unsealing of documents in an investigation that linked former New York governor Eliot Spitzer to a prostitution ring, potentially shedding more light on a scandal that forced Spitzer to resign. Thursday's ruling was a result of a request by The New York Times to unseal documents that outlined the prosecutors' probable cause for wiretapping two cellphones belonging to the prostitution ring. The materials will be released by Tuesday.

**SHOE-THROWING** The Iraqi journalist who hurled his shoes at former U.S. president George W. Bush went on trial on Thursday, facing up to 15 years in prison. The act of protest by Muntazer al-Zaidi, who also called the former U.S. leader a "dog" — both insults in the Middle East — overshadowed Bush's final visit to Iraq in December. He is charged with assaulting a visiting head of state and has been imprisoned for more than two months.

**NORTH KOREA** One of China's leading experts on Japan has vanished into custody after speaking about the health of reclusive North Korean leader Kim Jong-il. Jin Xide, last seen in early January, is believed to be under investigation for "leaking state secrets," a source said. Jin said publicly in January that Kim Jong-il was ill. The North Korean leader is widely believed to have had a stroke or other illness last year, which has been the cause of much speculation. **REUTERS**



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# Comment & Views

## Comment

### Coverage doesn't add up

#### Marketplace

Wendy Mesley

**B**laring headlines make it hard to miss. Canadians are losing their jobs and credit is hard to come by. So don't be surprised if your bank or even your favourite retail chain starts pitching to you about the need to protect yourself.

They're selling something called credit balance insurance. It's supposed to protect you in case of illness or death, or if you lose your job it promises to cover your credit card payments.

But after doing some math we started to wonder whose balance they're really trying to protect.

The cost of balance insur-

ance can really add up. The average price is about one dollar for every \$100 you spend a month. So when you've got \$2,000 on your plastic, you're forking over \$20 a month for insurance alone.

Insurance expert Jim Bullock says these expensive premiums don't pay off in the end, because if you lose your job, the insurance only covers your minimum monthly payment, which is usually less than three per cent of your balance.

What's worse is how many people claim this insurance is added to their accounts without their knowledge.

Jodie Lightfoot, 27, has been unknowingly paying for this insurance on her RBC Visa for years, to the tune of \$1,839.

She claims her bank didn't ask her if she wanted

this insurance. When she disputed the charges, they gave her a full refund.

We commissioned an EKOS poll and found that a quarter of the respondents either didn't know they had it or didn't know it was optional, and fully half didn't understand how it worked.

In the United Kingdom there were so many complaints about this insurance the government investigated and fined lenders millions of pounds for inappropriate sales techniques.

There's even a new ban in the U.K. against selling this insurance with credit card applications.

While Canadian banks do have their own rules about selling insurance and fully disclosing credit card charges, statistics from the government's consumer watchdog show the rules aren't always being followed.

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) has heard from almost 260 Canadians complaining about this insurance. The most common complaint is that it is added to people's cards without their consent. But so far there has been no crackdown on the banks or retail chains.

After we showed FCAC how some people feel they've been misled about this insurance, they promised to look into it.

Wendy Mesley is a co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show, and a regular back-up host with CBC News: The National. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. (9 p.m. NT) on CBC Television.



### Stressed Americans need mental soothing: Expert

**NEW YORK** The U.S. government should roll out a team of mental health professionals to soothe Americans anguished over the economic losses and encourage them to spend and invest, a New York psychiatrist says.

Dr. Richard Friedman of the Cornell Weill Medical Center in New York said he is treating 25 per cent more people because of the recession, with patients suffering from insomnia due to anxiety and some even being diagnosed with clinical depression.

"It creates a culture of anxiety and fears. So you are not talking about a handful of people, you are talking about a situation in which the environment is fearful," said Friedman.

"It's contagious. Even people whose jobs are secure feel frightened that they, too, could lose their jobs."

The U.S. economy, in recession since December 2007, is buckling under a heavy burden of rising unemployment.

Data released Thursday showed jobless numbers rose to a record high in early February of 4.99 million, a rate of 3.7 per cent. Washington has put forward an array of measures, including a \$787-billion stimulus package, to revive the bleeding economy.

Friedman said people's anxieties need to be addressed immediately and on a national scale. His answer: Replace assurances and explanations from economists and politicians with advice from mental health professionals.

Fear of the economic climate should be confronted in the same way as an irrational fear, he said.

"Say you are afraid of the dark, you walk in a dark room and turn on the lights and see that there is nothing terrible there," he said.

"You're afraid the market is going to collapse, you go out and you spend money."

#### ShareYourViews

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## Views

### Elephant vs debt: Racking up charges

#### UrbanCompass

Paul McLeod

paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

A few years back I ran into an old acquaintance who had royally screwed himself.

He was going to Dalhousie and didn't want to tell his parents that he'd lost his scholarship. So instead this guy — let's call him Alex because, well, that's his name — got a credit card and put his tuition on it.

"Have you been paying interest?" I asked.

"No, how does that work?" said Alex.

Stunned, I told him he should get some financial help ASAP. Poor, foolish

Alex had no idea he'd just given himself years-worth of debt to pay down.

But this is a guy who that night forgot his backpack on the top floor of a building, and back in high school once ogled a bunch of transvestites, thinking they were women.

Surely he's not a reliable sample of what happens to people out of high school.

But since then I've heard a lot more examples of people racking up debt when they were young.

Our photographer here at Metro is vigilant about his credit now. But back when he got his first credit card he went out with friends on the very first day and covered all their bills.

"It was like, oh I just found a bunch of money. I'll buy for everybody, of course. Why wouldn't I?" he recalls.

**Sure, part of you knows you should be careful. But you're broke and beer and pizza are delicious. Something's gotta give and the abstract concept of debt just isn't very scary at that point.**

I've been there. Sure, part of you knows you should be careful. But you're broke and beer and pizza are delicious. Something's gotta give and the abstract concept of debt just isn't very scary at that point.

So why are we not warning kids about this? Right now in Nova Scotia there's no mandatory class that teaches them how, or why, to properly use a credit card. Or how to quickly pay down debt. Or why you shouldn't buy, say, an elephant when you're living off a Pizza Hut salary.

Those subjects are instead covered in optional

courses like accounting and career development. But I guess it's not that big a deal. It's not like tons of people are going to go out and buy houses they can't afford, triggering a financial collapse the likes of which haven't been seen in 80 years. Oh, right.

Let's give these kids a fighting chance. I'll hopefully be debt-free within a few months and if I can do it with my lack of willpower than anyone can. But I maintain that elephant was totally worth it.

Paul McLeod is a staff reporter at Metro Halifax. He is currently in rehab for being a political junkie. It's going badly.

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: [halifaxletters@metronews.ca](mailto:halifaxletters@metronews.ca)

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



# Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

## The DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

### Pictou commission hires Canmac for economic planning:

The Pictou Regional Development Commission has hired Canmac Economics Ltd. to help develop a new economic vision for the future. Several consultations have occurred since the launch of the process three weeks ago. Focus groups have been held with government and industry association representatives, business owners and students.

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## Green plan a waste: Report

The federal government has been accused of not spending enough money on renewable sources of energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Now a report from the C.D. Howe Institute argues more than half of the dollars that Ottawa has committed to "green" energy is being wasted on ineffective programs.

The study says the Con-

### Did you know?

Emissions from fossil fuel-based thermal sources cur-

rently represent at least 30 per cent of emissions.

servatives, through their \$4.5-billion EcoEnergy program, are "over-investing" taxpayers' money on low-impact initiatives that support biofuels, such as ethanol, but giving short shrift to approaches that

would offer the biggest reduction in greenhouse gases at the lowest cost.

Attempts to reduce emissions through transportation fuels have so far proven a loser, the report found. It concluded that

every ton of carbon dioxide reduced through the use of ethanol fetches a government subsidy of between \$295 and \$430.

By comparison, a subsidy of \$30 to \$60 can achieve an equivalent reduction in carbon dioxide when the money is used to generate electricity from wind, biomass and biogas, or supply heat using solar technologies. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



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**Man forgets thousands of dollars in toilet**

A German businessman lost more than 10,000 euros (\$16,000) in a plastic bag after forgetting the cash in a public toilet as he stopped to relieve himself Thursday in a motorway service station near Haiger in western Germany. **REUTERS**

**business 13**

# Vehicle prices down: Report

Canadians paid less for new vehicles in 2008 for the second consecutive year because of a shift to smaller models and an extremely competitive marketplace, according to Statistics Canada data.

The average transaction price for a car dipped 0.7 per cent, or about \$190, to \$25,107, while the tag for trucks including medium- and heavy-duty models dropped 2.1 per cent, or about \$790, to \$37,480, the data showed.

Canadian car prices, which include delivery fees, dealer-preparation

**Income**

- It took 18.2 weeks of family income to purchase a new car last year, down from 18.9 weeks in 2007.

costs and taxes, have remained below the rate of inflation for the past eight years.

Analyst Dennis DesRosiers said consumers moved to cars, particularly entry-level models, last year because of soaring fuel costs, and that kept auto prices down.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Cashing in **Gambling pays in a recession**



A man watches television screens in a Ladbroke's bookmaker in London, England, yesterday. Britain's biggest bookmaker Ladbroke's said its business had shown resilience against the impact of the recession as it reported full-year operating profit slightly ahead of market expectations. Ladbroke's, which has 2,100 betting shops in Britain, said operating profit, excluding bets by high stakes gamblers, increased by 0.9 per cent to 243.8 million pounds (about \$440 million) in 2008.

**In brief**

**LAYOFFS** Sears Canada has laid off 300 employees, half of them in its head office in Toronto, amid worsening business conditions. The layoffs — the rest were in Sears repair services across the country — represent less than one per cent of the company's total workforce of 38,000 people, spokesperson Vince Power said.

**RENOVATIONS** Rona Inc., Canada's biggest home-improvement chain, reported a lower quarterly profit Thursday hurt in part by slumping home renovations. The retailer, with about 680 stores across the country, said it earned \$25.7 million, or 22 cents a share, in its fourth quarter, down from \$30.5 million in 2007, or 26 cents a share for the same time a year earlier.

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**PAGE**  
REALTY MANAGEMENT

**Tip of the Day:** Big jobs usually go to the men who prove their ability to outgrow small ones. — *Ralph Waldo Emerson*





Report: Rams franchise Canadian Atogwe  
According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the St. Louis Rams have placed the franchise tag on defensive back O.J. Atogwe, left. The Windsor, Ont., native was tabbed a "non-exclusive" franchise player and Atogwe has the ability to negotiate with other teams. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

## Four players hurt in bus crash

A bus carrying the American Hockey League's Albany River Rats crashed on slick roads in western Massachusetts early Thursday, injuring four players, including a pair of Canadians, and the team's radio commentator.

The bus carrying the team back from a game in Lowell, Mass., struck a guardrail on Interstate 90. Police said the bus flipped onto its side before coming to rest.

Jonathan Paiement, a defenceman from Montreal, and Nicolas Blanchard, a forward from Granby, Que., were among those taken to hospital. Defenceman Casey Borer and winger Joe Jensen, along with radio commentator John Hennessy, were also at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, coach Jeff Daniels said. None of the injuries was considered life-threatening.

Albany's game Friday against Bridgeport was cancelled.

Borer spent parts of the past two seasons with the Carolina Hurricanes. He skated in three games in December with Carolina before he was sent back down to Albany. He has one goal and two assists in 14 career NHL games with Carolina. Jensen had one goal in six games late last season with the Hurricanes.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Panthers tag Julius Peppers

**NFL** The Carolina Panthers placed their franchise tag on disgruntled defensive end Julius Peppers on Thursday. The second overall pick in the 2002 NFL Draft has made four Pro Bowl appearances over his seven-year career with Carolina, though, in recent weeks, expressed his desire to play elsewhere next season.

Peppers will be granted a one-year contract of the average of the top five salaries at the defensive end position last season or 120 percent of his 2008 salary, whichever is greater.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Happy return for Gonchar

**Sergei Gonchar scored his first goal of the season 7:18 into the third period and the Pittsburgh Penguins held on to edge the Montreal Canadiens Thursday night in Pittsburgh.**

Gonchar was playing in only his third game this year after undergoing off-season shoulder surgery. It was Pittsburgh's first win under interim head coach Dan Bylsma, who replaced the fired Michel Therrien on Feb. 15.

Evgeni Malkin added a goal and an assist, while Petr Sykora, Maxime Talbot and Miroslav Satan also lit the lamp for the Penguins, who rebounded after falling to the New York Islanders 3-2 in a shootout on Monday.

Pittsburgh has split its last four games, but has at least a point in three of the contests.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 23-of-27 shots for the Penguins.

Tomas Plekanec led the



Cole Harbour's Sidney Crosby goes airborne between Montreal's Roman Hamrlik and Mike Komisarek Thursday. Montreal lost for the 12th time in 15 games, 5-4.

Canadiens with a pair of goals and a helper, while Andrei Kostitsyn had a goal and two assists. Montreal has dropped seven of its last eight. New Hab Mathieu Schneider also

had a marker for the visitors.

Carey Price continued to struggle, turning away only 23 of 28 shots for Montreal. The netminder is 2-8-1 in 13 games since return-

ing from a lower-body injury.

In the third period and the contest even at 2-2, Pittsburgh caught the Canadiens in the middle of line change in the first

## All the help they can get?

- The Montreal Canadiens announced Thursday that banished forward Alexei Kovalev will return to practice with the Habs today and may play Saturday against Ottawa.

minute of play and Malkin's low wrist on a pass from Cole Harbour's Sidney Crosby put the hosts in front.

Talbot's seventh goal of the season off a goal-mouth scramble three minutes in put the Pens up by a pair, but Kostitsyn answered 13 seconds later to get Montreal back to within one.

Plekanec's second of the contest briefly tied things 6½ minutes into the third.

However, Gonchar's blast from the middle point got through a maze of players and found the back of the net 47 seconds later. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Golf Tiger's back



In this handout from the Woods family, left to right, Sam, Elin, Tiger, Charlie Woods and their dogs Yogi, left, and Taz pose for a family photo Thursday. Woods also announced on his website that he will return to golf at next week's World Golf Championship-Accenture Match Play Championship. Woods hasn't played since winning last July's U.S. Open.

# Raptors get bigger at NBA trade deadline

The Toronto Raptors made a move at the NBA trade deadline yesterday, easing a glut at one position and satisfying a need at another.

As part of a late-breaking three-way transaction, the Raptors acquired seven-foot centre Patrick O'Bryant from the Boston Celtics while sending point guard Will Solomon to the Sacramento Kings.

The Kings will send a future second-round draft pick and cash to Boston to complete the transaction.

O'Bryant, the ninth pick in the 2006 draft, has been languishing on the Boston bench behind Kendrick Perkins and Glenn Davis and has played in just 26 games this season.

But the 22-year-old comes to a team starved for size behind Chris Bosh and Andrea Bargnani, and with Kris Humphries still out, O'Bryant should challenge Jake Voskuhl and little-used Nathan Jawai for playing time.

Bosh, meanwhile, is ex-

pected to return to the Raptors lineup Friday as Toronto starts a home-and-home series with the New York Knicks.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Deadline deals

- Oklahoma City acquired Thabo Sefolosha from the Chicago Bulls for a draft pick.
- The Houston Rockets acquired Kyle Lowry from the Memphis Grizzlies for a first-round pick.
- The Orlando Magic got Rafer Alston from the Rockets for Brian Cook and a pick.
- The Knicks acquired Larry Hughes from Chicago for Tim Thomas and Jerome James.
- The Bulls acquired Brad Miller and John Salmons late Wednesday from Sacramento for Andres Nocioni, Drew Gooden, Cedric Simmons and Michael Ruffin.
- The trade sending Tyson Chandler to the Thunder from New Orleans was rescinded after doctors expressed concern over a recurring toe injury.



**X-Men assistant coach suspended**

Atlantic University Sport has suspended St. Francis Xavier basketball assistant coach Garry Gallimore for one year. **METRO HALIFAX**

sports **15**

Nancy McConnery and her Dartmouth rink will be opening the Scotties Tournament of Hearts Canadian women's curling championship against Manitoba on Saturday night in Victoria.

# Ready to rock

## Dartmouth rink in Tournament of Hearts

**Nancy McConnery opens the Scotties Tournament of Hearts Canadian women's curling championship against Manitoba on Saturday night in Victoria.**

McConnery's Dartmouth rink, featuring third Jennifer Crouse, second Sheena Gilman and lead Jill Thomas, is coming off an upset victory over Mary Anne Arsenault of Mayflower in the provincial Scotties last month.

It's been a remarkable year for McConnery, who quickly recovered after surgery for a torn meniscus in her knee in December that forced her to take three weeks off.

The 45-year-old is making her fourth trip to the Scotties. She represented New Brunswick in 1993 and 1995 and carried the colours for Nova Scotia in 2003.

Defending champion Jennifer Jones,

Saskatchewan's Stefanie Lawton, Alberta's Cheryl Bernard and Quebec's Marie-France Larouche are the early favourites.

McConnery's opening match is at 11 p.m. against Barb Spencer. She faces Jones and Bernard on Sunday.

The round robin concludes next Thursday and the championship game is on Saturday at 9 p.m. on TSN.

METRO HALIFAX

# Mooseheads snowed out

**MATTHEW WUEST**  
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

**The Halifax Mooseheads' big five-game homestand started on the wrong foot, as last night's tilt with the Saint John Sea Dogs was postponed because of the winter storm.**

The game will now be played on Saturday, March

14, shortening the Herd's current home stand to four games.

At the same time, it adds an extra three-games-in-three-days stretch to Halifax's schedule on the final weekend of the season, as the Mooseheads also play the Sea Dogs on Friday, March 13, and the Bathurst Titan on Sunday, March 15.

The last-place Moose-

heads (16-35-3-3) are three points out of a playoff spot and will look to climb out of the basement on Saturday at 7 p.m. against the Shawinigan Cataractes and Sunday at 4 p.m. against the Quebec Remparts.

Tickets for last night's game against the Sea Dogs are valid for admission for the rescheduled game on March 14.

### SCOREBOARD

#### QMJHL

ATLANTIC DIVISION				
	W	L	OT	P
x-Moncton	42	10	6	90
x-Cape Breton	40	16	2	82
Saint John	28	25	4	60
Bathurst	20	26	12	52
P.E.I.	20	28	9	49
HALIFAX	16	35	6	38

x - clinched playoff berth

#### SATURDAY GAME

Shawinigan at Halifax, 7 p.m.

#### SUNDAY GAME

Quebec at Halifax, 4 p.m.

#### PBL

#### ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

	W	L	PCT
Manchester	10	3	.769
Halifax	8	6	.571

Vermont	7	6	.538
Montreal	3	6	.333
Quebec	3	8	.273

#### FRIDAY'S GAME

Vermont at HALIFAX

#### NHL

THURSDAY GAMES			
Columbus	4	Toronto	3 (SO)
Pittsburgh	5	Montreal	4

Vancouver	5	Ottawa	2
Carolina	6	N.Y. Islanders	2
Chicago	4	Florida	0
New Jersey	3	Tampa Bay	2 (SO)
Philadelphia	6	Buffalo	3
St. Louis	at Nashville	N	
Calgary	at Minnesota	N	
Edmonton	at Dallas	N	
Atlanta	at Phoenix	N	
Los Angeles	at San Jose	N	

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— Bill Brownstein, *Montreal Gazette*

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HAHAHA.COM



# Big game for Rainmen tonight

MATTHEW WUEST

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

**When the Halifax Rainmen hit the floor at the Metro Centre Friday, the stakes will be high. How high?**

"Biggest game as a Rainman," said forward Eric Crookshank, who has been around since Day 1. "By far."

The Rainmen are hosting the Vermont Frost Heaves at 7 p.m. in a matchup that could ultimately make or break their bid to qualify for the Premier Basketball League playoffs.

Although the season began just seven weeks ago, the Rainmen (8-6) only have six games left on their schedule. Catching the Manchester Millrats (10-3) for the Atlantic Conference lead is unlikely, but a wild-card spot is still up for grabs, and the Frost Heaves (7-6) are fighting for it, too.

"There's not a lot of room for bad play," said Rainmen head coach Les

**"Vermont's going to give us their best game and if we're not prepared, they can put us on the other end of the scale."**

Rainmen head coach Les Berry

Berry. "We've got to step up our game."

"Vermont's going to give us their best game and if we're not prepared, they can put us on the other end of the scale."

The Rainmen are looking for redemption after losing to the basement-dwelling Quebec Kebs on Sunday. They scored just 78 points — the second lowest single-game total in the PBL this year — and their effort was underwhelming.

"We were thinking more than we were playing," Crookshank said.

Berry said they spent the week in practice working six-foot-nine newcomer A.J. Millien into the offence. Millien, who signed last Friday, leads the PBL in scoring and will help the Rainmen establish more of a presence down low.

The Rainmen have gone 4-for-30 from three-point range in the first halves of the past two games. Berry wants more balance in his offence, meaning Millien, Crookshank, David Bailey and John Strickland will need to step up in the paint.

"We can't just run around on the perimeter taking a lot of jump shots, especially in the first half, especially when you're not making them," Berry said.

"We've addressed it this week and, hopefully, it gives us a little spark."

Crookshank said the Rainmen are driven to make the playoffs.

"It would be big for this city," he said. "The city wants a team to root for. The Mooseheads aren't doing well and it would be big for us to win a championship this year."



John Strickland, right, shown in a game on Jan. 26, is one of the post players the Rainmen will turn to in the paint in a pivotal matchup with Vermont Friday night.

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VS  
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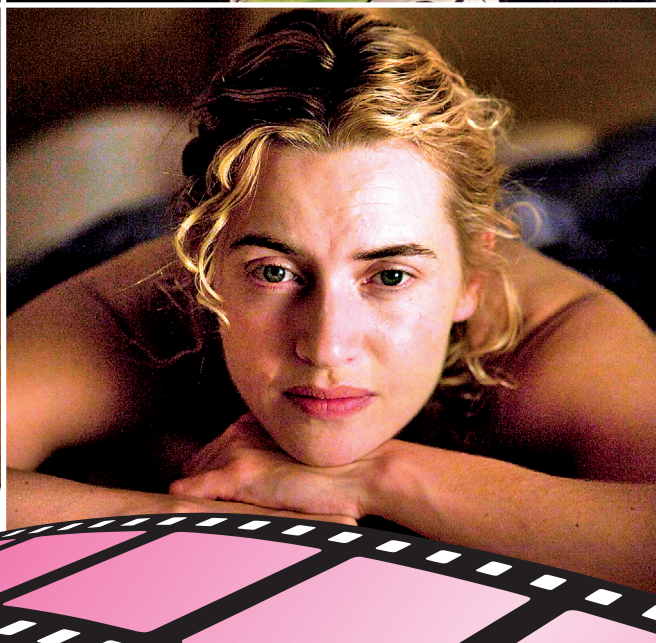
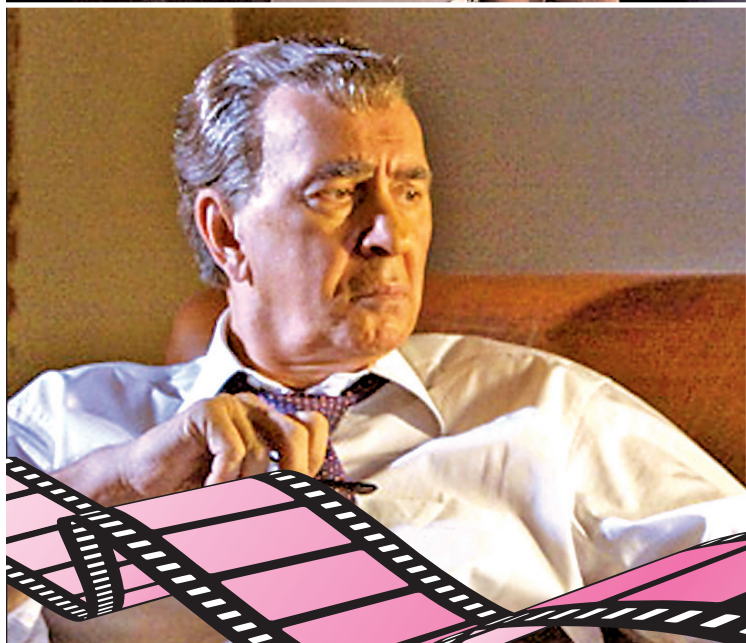
# Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

## Movies

### Oscar race

Pg 18



Will Angelina Jolie or Kate Winslet win a golden statue for their roles in Changeling or The Reader respectively? And will the Hollywood comeback be completed by the previously maligned Mickey Rourke? Perhaps Frank Langella will surprise a few with an Oscar for his performance in Frost/Nixon? Be sure to check out our pre-Academy Awards coverage for Metro's picks.

## Music

Pg 23



Alan Cross dishes on the best and worst Oscar songs.

## Television

Pg 24



Read about some of Ben Mulroney's red carpet goofs.

## 7th Heaven

Pg 25



Duffy tops the BRIT Awards, takes home three trophies.



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## Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR



(Clockwise from top left) Danny Boyle, director of multiple-nominee *Slumdog Millionaire*, shares a moment with the film's stars; Brad Pitt has a best actor nomination for *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*; Israel's unique take on war, *Waltz with Bashir*, is a front-runner in the foreign film race; *Man on Wire* will be the film to beat in the documentary feature category; and Meryl Streep earned her 15th Oscar nod for her portrayal of a hard-nosed nun in *Doubt*.

# The Oscar goes to ...

## Metro film critics make their picks for top categories

**Will it be the year of the *Slumdog* or will Button sew it up when Hollywood rolls out the red carpet for its biggest night Sunday? Metro's movie experts — Richard Crouse, Steve Gow and Chris Alexander — choose their favourites for what appears to be a tight race for Oscar glory:**

### BEST PICTURE

**Crouse:** All signs seem to be pointing to *Slumdog Millionaire* taking home the award. It's the little movie that could; a film that almost went straight to DVD, that has gone on to prove the old Hollywood maxim that nobody can predict what is going to become a hit.

**Gow:** If *Slumdog* doesn't lose its momentum, it's a no-brainer to take top prize. However, you can't discount Benjamin Button — Hollywood loves Pitt, David Fincher and these kinds of heart-tugging epics.

**Alexander:** I think, outside of *The Wrestler*, my favorite film of the year, I have to say that I enjoyed *Frost/Nixon* the most. So if a movie is to be measured by how much an individual is entertained by it, I say ... give it to *Frost/Nixon*.

### BEST DIRECTOR

**Crouse:** I'd be surprised if Danny Boyle doesn't win. Most of the other directors are multiple nominees but this seems to be *Slumdog*'s year.

**Gow:** It would be great to see Boyle take this. After all, not only did he make this gorgeous movie in the slums of India, but used an unknown cast as well.

**Alexander:** Go, David Fincher, go ... you've finally made a movie whose heart and soul matches your technical expertise. Keep it up.

### BEST ACTOR

**Crouse:** Everybody loves a

## Metro staff Oscar picks

**We did a little Oscar voting of our own around the office. Here are the results:**

**BEST PICTURE**  
**Slumdog Millionaire**

**BEST DIRECTOR**

**David Fincher**

**BEST ACTOR**

**Mickey Rourke**

**BEST ACTRESS**

**Kate Winslet**

**BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR**

**Heath Ledger**

**BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS**

**Taraji P. Henson**

comeback, so Mickey Rourke's raw performance in *The Wrestler* will likely take this category, although for my money the best performance of the year was Frank Langella as Nixon in *Frost/Nixon*.

**Gow:** This is a tough category — Rourke, Langella and Sean Penn are all worthy opponents but as much as this has been the year of the comeback, I'm going with Sean Penn.

**Alexander:** I have been a staunch supporter of Mickey Rourke since I first saw him take that elevator ride to Hell back in 1987's *Angel Heart*, so it's a personal vindication to see Hollywood fall at his freakish feet.

### BEST ACTRESS

**Crouse:** Kate Winslet — or Kate Wins-a-lot as I like to call her — has pretty much ruled this category so far this year, but I think the award should go to Meryl Streep in *Doubt*.

**Alexander:** Give me Angelina or give me death. I simply adored her in *Changeling*.

### BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

**Crouse:** This is Heath

## The 81st Annual Academy Awards

Ledger's year and not because he died tragically, but because he deserves it. His take on *The Joker* in *The Dark Knight* was exciting, fun and the best thing in the movie.

**Gow:** Um, you were considering somebody else (other than Ledger)?

### BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

**Crouse:** This should go to Viola Davis. With just five minutes of screen time in *Doubt* she created an unforgettable character that elevated the entire picture.

**Gow:** As much as I would love to see Marisa Tomei win this category, I am fairly certain Penelope Cruz will win voters' hearts.

## Your Oscar list

**Want to test your Oscar prediction skills? Check off your picks from the list of nominees and find out who wins Sunday:**

### Best Picture

- ☐ The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
- ☐ Frost/Nixon
- ☐ Milk
- ☐ The Reader
- ☐ *Slumdog Millionaire*

### Best Actor

- ☐ Richard Jenkins, *The Visitor*
- ☐ Frank Langella, *Frost/Nixon*
- ☐ Sean Penn, *Milk*
- ☐ Brad Pitt, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*
- ☐ Mickey Rourke, *The Wrestler*

### Best Actress

- ☐ Anne Hathaway, *Rachel Getting Married*
- ☐ Angelina Jolie, *Changeling*
- ☐ Melissa Leo, *Frozen River*
- ☐ Meryl Streep, *Doubt*
- ☐ Kate Winslet, *The Reader*

### Best Supporting Actor

- ☐ Josh Brolin, *Milk*
- ☐ Robert Downey Jr., *Tropic Thunder*
- ☐ Philip Seymour Hoffman, *Doubt*
- ☐ Heath Ledger, *The Dark Knight*
- ☐ Michael Shannon, *Revolutionary Road*

### Best Supporting Actress

- ☐ Amy Adams, *Doubt*
- ☐ Penelope Cruz, *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*
- ☐ Viola Davis, *Doubt*
- ☐ Taraji P. Henson, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*
- ☐ Marisa Tomei, *The Wrestler*

## The 81st Annual Academy Awards

### Best Director

- ☐ David Fincher, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*
- ☐ Ron Howard, *Frost/Nixon*
- ☐ Gus Van Sant, *Milk*
- ☐ Stephen Daldry, *The Reader*
- ☐ Danny Boyle, *Slumdog Millionaire*

### Best Animated Feature

- ☐ Bolt
- ☐ Kung-Fu Panda
- ☐ WALL-E

### Best Foreign Language Film

- ☐ The Baader Meinhof Complex (Germany)
- ☐ The Class (France)
- ☐ Departures (Japan)
- ☐ Revanche (Austria)
- ☐ *Waltz with Bashir* (Israel)

### Best Adapted Screenplay

- ☐ Eric Roth and Robin Swicord, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*
- ☐ John Patrick Shanley, *Doubt*
- ☐ Peter Morgan, *Frost/Nixon*
- ☐ David Hare, *The Reader*
- ☐ Simon Beaufoy, *Slumdog Millionaire*

### Best Original Screenplay

- ☐ Courtney Hunt, *Frozen River*
- ☐ Mike Leigh, *Happy-Go-Lucky*
- ☐ Martin McDonagh, *In Bruges*
- ☐ Dustin Lance Black, *Milk*
- ☐ Andrew Stanton, Jim Reardon and Pete Docter, *WALL-E*

• For a complete list of nominees, visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)



**Chris Alexander**  
Movie Buff

Academy Awards Blog  
[metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

Chris Alexander is a regular contributor to Metro Canada and also writes for *Fangoria* and does movie reviews for A.M. 640 in Toronto. He will make regular blog updates during Sunday night's Academy Awards broadcast. Visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

## Oscar loss may be blessing in disguise

**CAREER** Hollywood stars should be careful what they wish for when they hit the campaign circuit in hopes of snagging an Oscar.

It's a stretch to talk about an Oscar curse, but past winners such as Nicole Kidman, Renee Zell-

weger, Halle Berry, Adrien Brody, Hilary Swank and Cuba Gooding, Jr. have not cleaned up at the box office in years.

Put it another way: If your name is not called out at the 81st annual Academy Awards Sunday, maybe

you can breathe a sigh of relief.

Kidman won an Oscar for 2002's *The Hours*, but has never headlined a big hit. The actress starred in last year's big Oscar hopeful *Australia*, which failed to dig up any commercial

or awards gold.

Since winning her Oscar for a supporting role in 2003's *Cold Mountain*, Zellweger's career went cold with such films as *Cinderella Man* and *Leatherheads*.

REUTERS



**Fockers sequel making way**

Meet The Little Fockers is moving ahead at last, with Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson and Robert De Niro set to return to the fold and John Hamburg working on the script. [EMPIREONLINE.COM](http://EMPIREONLINE.COM)

**Movies**

# Don't mess with speeches, readers say

**InFocus****Richard Crouse**

mrchaos33@hotmail.com

It seems everyone has a favorite Oscar speech. Last week I wrote a column suggesting four ways to streamline the speeches and give the behemoth Academy Awards broadcast some forward momentum. The response from readers indicates the speeches are one element of the show they would rather not see tampered with. Cut the musical numbers, shorten the opening monologue, kill the Price Waterhouse tribute — but don't mess with the speeches. "The Academy Awards are about four things," wrote Andrea from Toronto. "The shoes, the dresses, the jewelry and the speeches."

It's funny, I thought they were about the movies, but then again, the red carpet's "glam cams" before the ceremony get more eyeballs than the show itself, so I guess Andrea has a point.

Some like emotional speeches. Gary in Halifax says his favorite Oscar moment came when Russell Crowe accepted best actor for Gladiator. "If you grow up in the suburbs of anywhere," the actor said, wearing his grandfather's MBE on his lapel. "A dream like this seems kind of vaguely ludicrous and completely unattainable, but this moment is directly connected to those imaginings. And for anybody who's on the downside of advantage, and relying purely on courage, it's possible."

Others said they liked funny speeches. Brian in Toronto wondered which Oscar acceptance speeches made me laugh. I immediately thought of Geoffrey Rush, who accepted the best actor award for Shine with the words, "This is for all the

people who were happy to bankroll the film as long as I wasn't in it," but settled on Paul Williams, the five-foot-two Best Song winner who said, "I was going to thank all the little people, but then I remembered I am the little

people!"

Most agreed with me that the "thank yous" are an important component of any acceptance speech, but suggested that less is always more. Jen927 said that winners should just

follow the lead of Julia Roberts and simply thank "everybody I've ever met in my entire life."

The final word on Oscar acceptance speeches came from Claudio's Blackberry who reminded me of host

Danny Kaye's 1952 joke, "The Academy asks that your speech be no longer than the movie itself."

Amen to that.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel.

## Economy won't dim Oscar shine

**AWARDS** Economic woes have taken their toll on Wall Street and Main Street, but they won't dim the glamour on the red carpet at the Academy Awards.

It will be business as usual on Feb 22, the biggest night of the U.S. film industry when it pays tribute to its finest actors, directors, producers and writers.

Film stars in designer gowns and diamonds will stroll down the red carpet to the delight of screaming fans and millions of TV viewers before the awards gala at the Kodak Theatre.

Jewelry and shoe designers said they expect the look to be pure Hollywood but with less glitz this year than in the past.

"A lot of the looks we are styling have to do with creating big looks with less bling," said Michelle Adjoran, of Tacori jewelers, which works with celebrities to create distinctive looks for the red carpet.

"Instead of a huge statement necklace, which we did see at the Golden Globes, I think you are going to see a lot more open necklines, dramatic earrings and accent pieces that offset something," she added in an interview.

### The 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Academy Awards

Expect to see broaches worn as hairpieces, layered chains around the neck and stacked bracelets.

"They (film stars) want something that is reflective of them and that hasn't been seen before," said Adjoran, adding that the jewels are primarily on loan to the stars for the night. Big, dangling, three-dimensional diamond earrings are also expected to be popular.

"Diamonds brighten your smile and they bring sparkle to your eyes whenever you are photographed, literally, because they refract the light. Diamond earrings will definitely be seen on the red carpet," said Adjoran.

REUTERS

**Choo's shoes**

- As it has done since 1999, Jimmy Choo is offering an Oscar collection of customized shoes and handbags to nominees and presenters at a style suite it has set up in a Los Angeles hotel.

CHARLIE COX KATE MARA BILLY BOYD ROBERT CARLYLE



They didn't grab their destiny. They lifted it.

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# STONE OF DESTINY

INFINITY FEATURES ENTERTAINMENT AND THE MOB FILM COMPANY PRESENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH ALLIANCE FILMS AND ARC LIGHT FILMS A FILM BY CHARLES MARTIN SMITH STARRING CHARLIE COX, KATE MARA, "STONE OF DESTINY"  
BILLY BOYD, STEPHEN MCQUE, CIARON KELLY, PETER MULLAN, BRENDA FRICKER AND ROBERT CARLYLE CREATING JOHN AND ROS HUBBARD WRITING MICHAEL DANNA PRODUCED BY TRISHA BIGGAR  
EDITED BY FREDRIK THORSEN PRODUCTION DESIGNER TOM SAYER MUSIC BY GLEN WINTER COSTUME DESIGNER PETER GALLAGHER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALAN MARTIN PRODUCED BY WILLIAM VINCE CHARLES MARTIN SMITH, TERRENCE YASON, MICHAEL S. MURPHY, CAROLE SHERIDAN, VICTOR LOEWY  
PRODUCED BY ROBERT MERILEES ANDREW BOSWELL BASED ON THE PLAY "THE TAKING OF THE STONE OF DESTINY" BY IAN HAMILTON INTERVIEWED BY CHARLES MARTIN SMITH  
Produced with the participation of TELEFILM CANADA, ASTRA FILMS, THE HAROLD GREENBERG FUND, THE GALASSO FILM OFFICE, PARADISE, LONDON LIMITED through GOLDHARVEST PROPERTIES LIMITED and STOMPBOX LIMITED THE CANADIAN FILM AND VIDEO PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA Film Incentive BC Produced in association with THE VINEYARD CITY TV  
Supported by the National Lottery through SCOTTISH SCREEN. Developed with the assistance of ASTRA MEDIA, THE HAROLD GREENBERG FUND, THE IFC FILM SLATE DEVELOPMENT FUND AND MOVIE CENTRAL A CORALIS ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY  
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## Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

## Fired Up but misguided

## Fired Up

Director: Will Gluck

Stars: Nicholas D'Agosto, Eric Christian Olsen

Classification: PG

Rating: ●●●½

STEVE GOW  
for Metro Canada

There isn't much new to get fired up about in *Fired Up*. Sure, it's a teen comedy with plenty of innuendo, eye-catching cuties and huge over-the-top performances, but then, what else would you expect from a film that presumes a pick-up line like "do you like canopy beds" might actually work?

Nicholas D'Agosto and Eric Christian Olsen star as two sex-obsessed high school football stars that spend summer vacation at cheer camp with the sole goal of scoring as many pom-pom princesses as possible. Once there, they encounter the typical mélange of comic misfits: The resist-

Nicholas D'Agosto, left, and Eric Christian Olsen star in the teen comedy *Fired Up*.

ant head cheerleader; her rich, insolent boyfriend; the gay neat-freak bunkmate; the sexy thirtysomething coach and a meek nerdy girl who tries to dampen outlandish statements like "I want to cut the blond one" by saying, "I'm just sayin'."

The truth is, *Fired Up* is entertaining but it may not satisfy most moviegoers anticipating more visual raunch. The most surprising aspect about this come-

## On the web

- For a trailer and screen times for *Fired Up*, visit [metronews.ca/movies](http://metronews.ca/movies)

dy are the film's snappy, rapid-fire zingers and clever, acute references that nod to John Lennon and Spencer Tracey which may ultimately alienate the younger audience it will undoubtedly attract.

Written by Freedom Jones which, judging from the dialogue, may actually be a pseudonym for a syndicate of witty 40-something sitcom scribes, *Fired Up* isn't disappointing inasmuch as it's misguided. After all, this is a sex comedy for teens; if the characters don't get the references they themselves are uttering, how will its prospective audience? Hey, I'm just sayin'.

## Director's touch transforms Destiny

## Stone of Destiny

Director: Charles Martin Smith

Stars: Robert Carlyle, Charlie Cox, Billy Boyd

Classification: PG

Rating: ●●●½

IAN GORMELY  
for Metro Canada

**REVIEW** Like *Slumdog Millionaire* this past fall, *Stone of Destiny* takes a typical Hollywood narrative (the heist flick in this case) and transposes it to an exotic location (post-WWII Scotland).

Based on the book written by the film's protagonist Ian Hamilton, *Stone of Destiny* follows a group of young Scottish nationalists in their quest to retake the titular rock; Scottish kings were crowned on the stone until it was stolen by the English in the 13th century. British monarchs have

## On the web

- For a trailer and screen times for *Stone of Destiny*, visit [metronews.ca/movies](http://metronews.ca/movies)

since used it for their own coronations, thereby making the English king, the king of Scotland as well.

Ian (Charlie Cox) believes that reclaiming the stone will rally the Scottish people around his group's cause. He enlists the help of friend Bill (Billy Boyd) and John MacCormick (Robert Carlyle), a professor and head of the Scottish independence movement to hatch a plan for its retrieval.

That the group recaptures the Stone and returns it to Scotland is both a historical and narrative inevitability. So the challenge for director Charles Martin Smith (*The Snow Walker*) is to suck viewers into the world he's created, something he accomplishes quite handily.

"A SHOPPING BAG FULL OF LAUGHS!"  
Rosey Edeh, ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT CANADA

"Isla Fisher is irresistible, in her most charming role yet."  
Teri Hart, THE MOVIE NETWORK

**ISLA FISHER**  
JERRY BRUCKHEIMER PRODUCTION  
**CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC**

TOUCHSTONE PICTURES AND JERRY BRUCKHEIMER FILMS PRESENT A P.J. HOGAN FILM "CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC" ISLA FISHER HUGH DANCY JOAN CUSACK JOHN GOODMAN JOHN LITHGOW KRISTEN SCOTT THOMAS LESLIE BOBB  
CASTING BY KATHY NELSON COSTUME DESIGNER JAMES NEWTON HOWARD EDITOR MIKE STENSON EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHAD OMAN RON BOZMAN  
PRODUCED BY JERRY BRUCKHEIMER WRITTEN BY JERRY BRUCKHEIMER AND P.J. HOGAN DIRECTED BY P.J. HOGAN  
SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON RECORDS  
CASTING BY TRACY JACKSON AND TIM FIRTH AND KAYLA ALPERT  
P.J. HOGAN  
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NATASHA BEDINGFIELD  
TREY SONGZ  
AND MANY, MANY MORE

For Theatres and Showtimes: Check local listings or visit [shopaholicmovie.com](http://shopaholicmovie.com)

## Cadillac worth the ride

## Cadillac Records

Director: Darnell Martin

Stars: Adrian Brody, Beyoncé

Classification: STC

Rating: ●●●½

CHRIS ALEXANDER  
for Metro Canada

**REVIEW** Having already enjoyed a theatrical run in the U.S., *Cadillac Records*, director Darnell Martin's epic fictionalized investigation into the birth of blues and the legendary label that popularized it in the '50s.

It's a somewhat frustrating affair, albeit one armed with a treasure trove of riches that trump its shortcomings tenfold.

The film charts the evolution of Chess Records, a fledgling outfit run by Leonard Chess (a solid Adrian Brody), a white entrepreneur and music enthusiast who capitalized on so-called "race" artists that played deep, down dirty southern blues.

His unofficial partner in the enterprise is growly up-and-comer Muddy Waters (Jeffrey Wright) who becomes the label's first meal ticket, but not their last. The Chess roster eventually signs such heavy hitters as the intimidating Howlin' Wolf (Eamonn Walker), vocalist Etta James (pop diva

Beyoncé plays singer Etta James in *Cadillac Records*.

Beyoncé, who also executive produced) and the father of rock 'n' roll himself, Chuck Berry (Mos Def).

As fortunes increase, Leonard attempts to navigate his volatile stars while simultaneously breaking new ground for black artists to be embraced (and, in some cases, ripped off) by white America.

This is rowdy, passionate and massively entertaining stuff partially undone by the fact that the scope of its story is just too mammoth to cram into a two-hour time frame. In fact there are moments when *Cadillac Records* feels like a sprawling TV miniseries clumsily hacked down to

feature length (Norman Reedus as Leonard's brother Phil is barely identified).

But when the film is good, baby it's really, really good and occasionally, it even courts brilliance, offering an embarrassment of incredible performances — Wright and especially, believe it or not, Beyoncé, are blistering and Oscar worthy — and some of the most fantastic vintage blues music ever assembled in any movie, ever.

Flawed but utterly hypnotic, *Cadillac Records* is ambitious and inarguably alive. Even if you don't love the blues, you'll be entertained but if you do, you'll want to see it twice.



**"THE INTERNATIONAL...  
CRACKLES WITH TENSION... A PULSE-POUNDER...  
THE PERFECT THRILLER FOR OUR TIMES."**  
Stephen Rebello, *PLAYBOY*



CLIVE OWEN NAOMI WATTS  
**THE INTERNATIONAL**

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA AN ATLAS ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION A FILM BY TOM TYKKER "THE INTERNATIONAL" ARMIN MUELLER-STALL BRIAN E. D'OLYNE  
MUSIC BY TOM TYKKER JOHNNY KLIMEK REINHOLD HELD EDITOR ALAN C. GLAZER RYAN KAVANAUGH EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ERIC WARREN SINGER PRODUCED BY CHARLES ROVEN RICHARD SUCKLE LLOYD PHILLIPS  
DIRECTED BY TOM TYKKER  
PG LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND  
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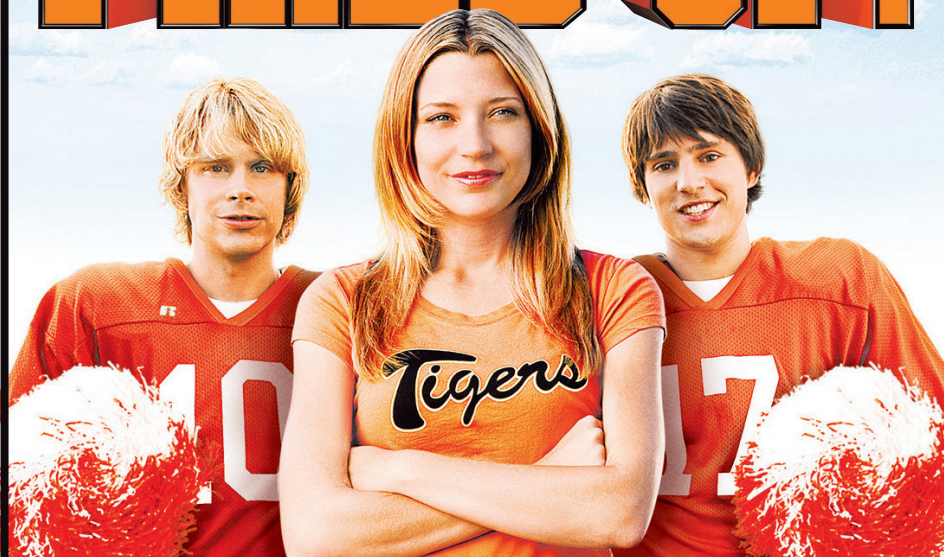
**NOW PLAYING** Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

**"HILARIOUS!"**

Jeffrey Lyons, NBC/REEL TALK

**"The movie never ceases to hit joke after joke.  
There's a definite cleverness to it—  
I couldn't stop laughing!"**  
AIN'T IT COOL NEWS

**FIRE UP!**



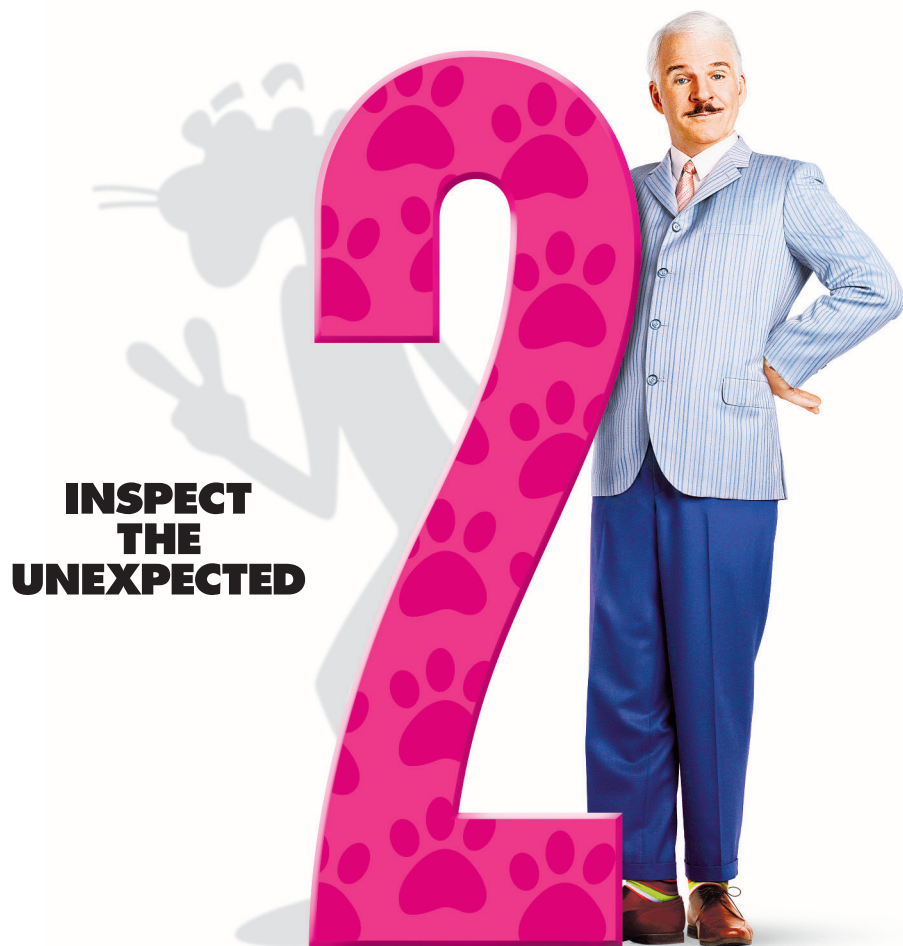
SCREEN GEMS PRESENTS A MOVING PICTURES AMG/CROSS ENTERTAINMENT/CHARLES WEINSTOCK PRODUCTION A FILM BY WILL GLUCK  
"FIRED UP" NICHOLAS D'AGOSTO ERIC CHRISTIAN OLSEN SARAH ROEMER MOLLY SIMS DANNEEL HARRIS ADHIR KALYAN  
ANNALYNN MCCORD WITH PHILIP BAKER HALL AND JOHN MICHAEL HIGGINS MUSIC BY WENDE CROWLEY MUSIC BY RICHARD GIBBS  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS WILL GLUCK PADDY CULLEN MARY GROSS ANN WESTON PRODUCED BY MATTHEW GROSS PETER JAYSEN CHARLES WEINSTOCK  
WRITTEN BY FREEDOM JONES DIRECTED BY WILL GLUCK  
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Soundtrack Available Online  
ThisIsNOTaCheerleadingMovie.com  
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**"A COMIC GEM."**

Paul Fischer, *DARK HORIZONS*

**STEVE MARTIN** is **INSPECTOR CLOUSEAU**

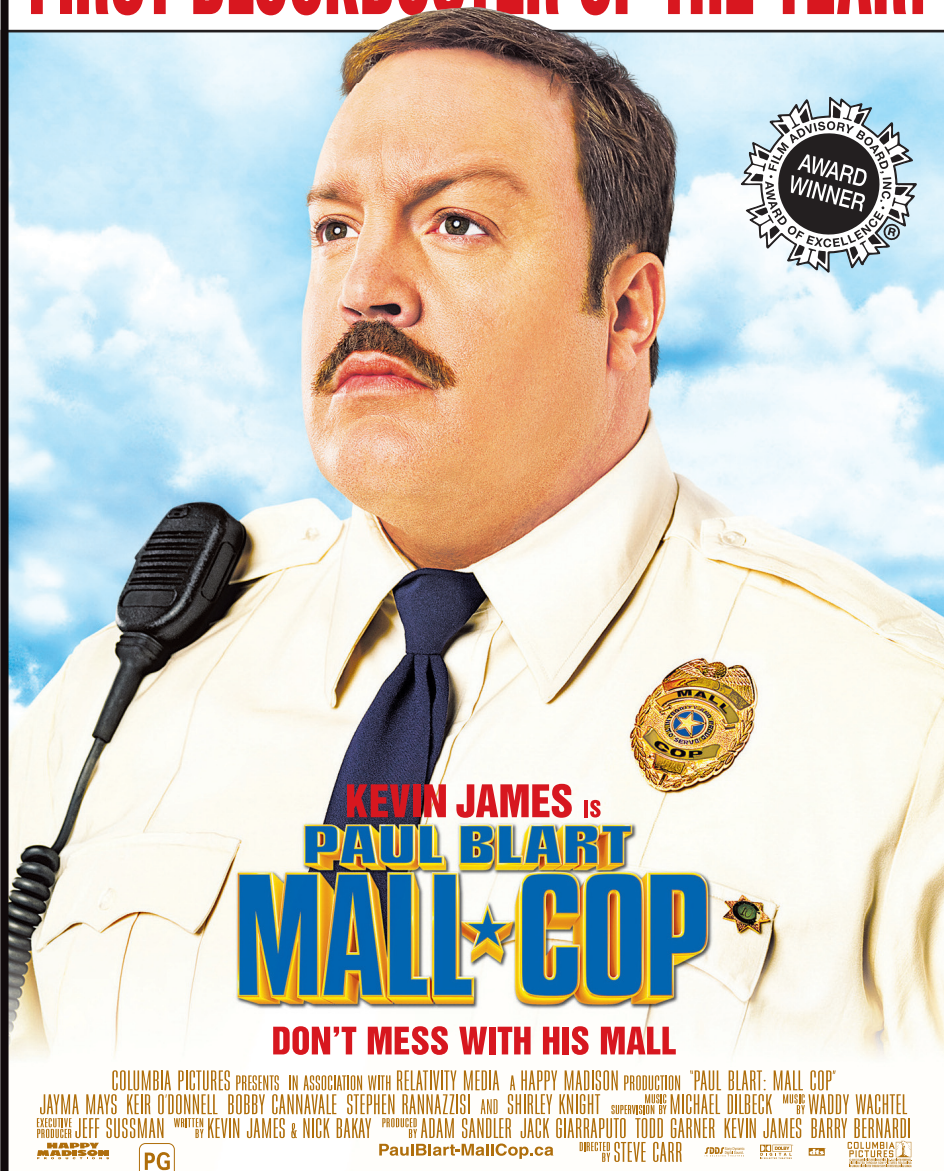


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METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURES AND COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENT A ROBERT SIMMONS PRODUCTION STEVE MARTIN "THE PINK PANTHER 2" JEAN RENÉ ALFRED MOLINA EMILY MORTIMER  
ASHVARYA RAI BACHCHAN AND ANDY GARCIA WITH LILY TOMLIN AND JOHN CLEESE MUSIC BY CHRISTOPHE BECK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS IRA SHUMAN SHAWN LEVY BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY MAURICE RICHLIN & BLAKE EDWARDS  
SCREENPLAY BY SCOTT NEUSTADTER & MICHAEL H. WEBER DIRECTED BY HAROLD ZWART  
PinkPanther.ca  
PG  
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MALL★COP**

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JAYMA MAYS KEIR O'DONNELL BOBBY CANNAVALE STEPHEN RANNAZZISI AND SHIRLEY KNIGHT SUPERVISED BY MICHAEL DILBECK MUSIC BY WADDY WACHTEL  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JEFF SUSSMAN PRODUCED BY KEVIN JAMES & NICK BAKAY PRODUCED BY ADAM SANDLER JACK GIARRAPUTO TODD GARNER KEVIN JAMES BARRY BERNARDI  
WRITTEN BY KEVIN JAMES & NICK BAKAY DIRECTED BY STEVE CARR  
PaulBlart-MallCop.ca  
PG  
COLUMBIA PICTURES

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Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THIS PAGE COVERS MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB. 20 TO THURS., FEB. 26. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

HALIFAX

**BAYERS LAKE**  
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake  
902-876-4800

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50-3:50-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Tue 12:50-3:50-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 3:50-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 12:50-3:50-7-9:30  
**Coraline 3D** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:25-6:30-8:55  
**Defiance** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:20  
**Fired Up** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-6:45-9:20  
**Friday the 13th** (18) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:40-1:10-3:20-4:10-7:10-7:30-9:45-10:05 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Tue 12:40-1:10-3:20-4:10-7:10-7:30-9:45-10:05 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 1:10-1:30-4:10-4:20-7:10-7:30-9:45-10:05 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 12:40-1:10-3:20-4:10-7:10-7:30-9:45-10:05  
**Frost/Nixon** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:35  
**Gran Torino** (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Wed 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:35 Dolby Stereo Thu 12:40-3:40-9:35  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:40-9:35  
**Hotel for Dogs** (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-3:55-

6:30  
**The International** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:15-9:50  
**JCVD** (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:45-3:20-7:10-9:40  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:55-4-6:45-9:05  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:45-9:15  
**Push** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:10-6:55  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-6:50-9:30  
**Stone of Destiny** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:50-6:50-9:35  
**Taken** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:25-4-7-9:30  
**The Wrestler** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4-20-7:15-9:55

**IMAX**  
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake  
902-876-4800

**Under the Sea 3D** (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:30-2:15-4-5:50-7:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon 12:30-2:15-4-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Tue 12:30-2:15-4-5:50-7:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Wed 12:30-2:15-4-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Thu 12:30-2:15-4-5:50-7:30-9:25

**OXFORD THEATRE**  
6408 Quinpool Rd., 902-423-7488

**Slumdog Millionaire** (14) Fri 6:45-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-6:45-9:30 Mon-

Thu 6:45-9:30  
**PARK LANE**  
5657 Spring Garden Rd.  
902-423-4860

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1-3:40-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-7-9:30  
**Doubt** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:50-3:35-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-6:30-9  
**Fired Up** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-3:45-6:50-9:05 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-6:50-9:05  
**Friday the 13th** (18) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:20-3:50-7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-7:10-9:40  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:20-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:20-6:20-9:10  
**The International** (14) Stadium Seating Fri 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat 6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Sun 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:30-6:40-9:20  
**Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore NCM Event** (STC) Stadium Seating Sat 2  
**Pulp Fiction** (18) Stadium Seating Sun 4  
**The Reader** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-3:25-6:35-9:15 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:25-6:35-9:15  
**Taken** (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:30-4-7-20-9:45

Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7:20-9:45

**LOWER SACKVILLE**  
**LOWER SACKVILLE**  
760 Sackville Dr., 902-869-2022

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:15 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:10-3:40-7-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:15  
**Friday the 13th** (18) Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1:20-3:50-7:20-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:20-9:40  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:20-6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:20  
**Hotel for Dogs** (G) Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:45-3:10  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:30-7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:15-9:40  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:40-3:15-6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30  
**Taken** (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:50-3-7:10-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:25  
**The Wrestler** (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:40-9:10

**DARTMOUTH**  
**DARTMOUTH**  
650 Portland St., 902-434-4200

**Cadillac Records** (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 8:50  
**Hotel for Dogs** (G) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:45 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2:30-6:45 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:45  
**New in Town** (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:50-8:55 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2:40-6:50-8:55 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:50-8:55  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:55-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 2:50-6:55-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 6:55-9:15  
**Push** (14) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:35-9:05 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2:10-6:35-9:05 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:35-9:05  
**The Reader** (14) Dolby Stereo Fri 6:30-9 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 2-6:30-9 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 6:30-9  
**The Wrestler** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:20-6:40-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10

**DARTMOUTH CROSSING**

145 Shubie Dr., 902-481-3251

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:15-4-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:15-4-7:05-9:45  
**Coraline** (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:45-3:55-6:35  
**Fired Up** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-2:40-5-7:20-9:50  
**Friday the 13th** (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:55-3:30-6:45-9:20  
**Gran Torino** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4-7-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 7-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7-9:45  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:35-9:35  
**Hotel for Dogs** (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:45-2:10-4:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:50  
**The International** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:05-3:50-6:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 6:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Tue 1:05-3:50-6:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 6:30-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:05-3:50-6:30-9:25  
**Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine Encore** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 2  
**My Bloody Valentine 3D** (18) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 9:15  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-2:50-5:15-7:30-9:55  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12-2:15-4:35-7:25-9:40  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:45-6:40-9:25  
**Taken** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-2:35-4:50-7:10-9:40  
**Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail** (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 1:20-3:55-7-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:20-3:55-9:35

**TRURO**  
**TRURO**  
20 Treaty Trail, 902-895-8020

**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:15-7-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-9:15  
**Friday the 13th** (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-8:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:30-6:50-8:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:05-6:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:10  
**Milk** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:25-7:20-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7-8:50  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:10-7 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10  
**Taken** (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:20-7:10-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:35-9:20

**BRIDGEWATER**  
**BRIDGEWATER**  
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**Confessions of a Shopaholic** (PG) No Passes Fri 7-9:30 No Passes Sat 2:30-7-9:30 Sun 2:30-6:30-9 Mon-Thu 6:30-9  
**Friday the 13th** (18) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:40 No Passes Sat 2:40-7:10-9:40 Sun 2:40-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10  
**He's Just Not That Into You** (PG) Fri 6:30-9:25 Sat 2:05-6:30-9:25 Sun 2:05-6-8:55 Mon-Thu 6-8:55  
**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** (PG) Fri 6:55-9:10 Sat 2:25-6:55-9:10 Sun 2:25-6:25-8:40 Mon-Thu 6:25-8:40  
**The Pink Panther 2** (PG) Fri 6:45-9 Sat 2:15-6:45-9 Sun 2:15-6:15-8:30 Mon-Thu 6:15-8:30  
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14) Fri 6:40-9:35 Sat 2-6:40-9:35 Sun 2-6:10-9:05 Mon-Thu 6:10-9:05  
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## Music

# Goddess of winter

Emm Gryner's latest disc draws on seasonal themes

BRIAN COULTON  
for Metro Canada



**Once upon a time, Emm Gryner didn't have to deal with winter.**

The Sarnia, Ont.-born singer/songwriter's 13-year career has seen her take up residence in locales like New York and sunny Los Angeles where the bitter ice and snow don't quite fall like in her native Ontario.

But given the choice, Gryner would sooner remain stationed in the small town outside Stratford, Ont., she now calls home instead of such over-hyped havens of musical bustle.

"I like being able to have this small town as a base," she says. "I'd be hesitant to leave that or be on the road all the time or trade it for something a little bit bigger."

Trading it would necessitate swapping those seasonal aspects she's become so accustomed to. "It really defines us as Canadians," she says, "The fact that we spend six months of our lives in this kind of a climate." And on her eleventh studio album *Goddess*, it's that motif of winter that seems to underlie the often-



ILIA HORSBURGH PHOTO

*Goddess* is the latest album from singer-songwriter Emm Gryner.

bombastic blizzard of sounds on the record.

While Gryner didn't really intend *Goddess* to be a "winter" album, she acknowledges the theme's apparent recurrence and says many of the songs were written amid the wind and snow marking the last few months. The record does, at least, reflect winter's bleak, dejected reputation. "I just kind of felt like doing some-

thing a little more minor, with a few more minor keys, and a bit meatier," she says. Further, many of *Goddess*' songs are very personal, says Gryner, and the album divulges some of the sadder experiences she encountered when coming to grips with her life. "It's a really chilling risk to take to step out into the cold and kind of reveal yourself."

It's also risky to attempt

**"It's a really chilling risk to take to step out into the cold and kind of reveal yourself."**

Emm Gryner

creating any record completely by yourself. But because of the album's introspective nature, Gryner opted to self-produce all components of *Goddess*.

"I always enjoy records that the artist has produced because you know exactly that that's the way they wanted to communicate the songs," she says. "Because I recorded it and I produced it, it retains a little bit of that intimate 'I did this at my house' kind of vibe."

But Gryner doesn't plan to abandon the studio. Later this year, she will impressively release a second album of new material, this one recorded in Los Angeles, a "sunny, happy major key album" that is, per Gryner, "completely the opposite of *Goddess*."

"I keep writing so much. For myself, I need to put things out or else I don't really move forward as a creative person."

## Oscar cuts short best original songs

### SoundCheck

Alan Cross



alan@ongoinghistory.com

Awards show season reaches its peak Sunday night with the 81st Academy Awards ceremony where Oscars aplenty will be handed out by and to some of the most self-important pieces of puffery on the planet. The Oscars lost me years ago when host Whoopi Goldberg smugly told the audience, "Don't we do good work?"

Naturally, the telecast is scheduled to run three-and-a-half hours (Optimistic? Or delusional?), but will most likely stretch much longer, which means diehards on eastern time won't get to bed until it's way too late.

This, despite the produc-

ers' annual vow to shorten things up. Winners are given the hook after 45 seconds. The gawdawful interpretive dance numbers that no one liked were cut. The second hour is no longer about categories that only industry wonks care about. And they've cut the time given to the performances by nominees for best original song.

Normally, this wouldn't be just a bad thing — but not this year. I'll get



back to that in a second.

Best original song is one of the oldest awards, dating back to 1934 when The Continental scooped a trophy for its appearance in *The Gay Divorcee*. From that moment, the Academy has had a (mostly) tin ear for picking good songs. There's been a bias towards Disney ditties and syrupy love songs — think *My Heart Will Go On* from *Titanic* (1997). Occasionally they got it right. Think Eminem and Lose Yourself in 2002, and Bruce Springsteen for *Streets of Philadelphia* in 1993.

The rest of the list consists of song that are, in my opinion, twee, lightweight, dated and otherwise ignominious. (Last Dance from *Thank God It's Friday*, anyone? Look it up!)

This year, there are just three best original song nominees. But in

**Eminem won the Oscar for Lose Yourself in 2002.**

GETTY IMAGES

### The 81st Annual Academy Awards

the interests of saving time, they're going to be condensed into a medley with each getting just 65 seconds. Peter Gabriel, the co-writer of *Down to Earth* from *Wall-E* will have none of this, so he's refusing to perform. Meanwhile, the other two songs are from *Slumdog Millionaire*, one of which is co-written by rapper M.I.A. She probably won't be there, either, because she became a mother last week, just a couple of days after performing at the Grammys. Apparently, organizers are so desperate for her to perform that they've offered her a bed so she can sing lying down. Even I'd stay up for that.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at [ongoinghistory.com](http://ongoinghistory.com) and [exploremusic.com](http://exploremusic.com)

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American Idol runner-up-turned-actress Katharine McPhee is set to play a singer. McPhee, who costarred in The House Bunny, has been tapped for a visit to CSI: NY, according to The Hollywood Reporter. [TVGUIDE.COM](#)

Television



etalk hosts Ben Mulroney, left, and Tanya Kim will cover the 81st Annual Academy Awards this Sunday.

Covering the red carpet

Mulroney talks Oscar jitters and his most embarrassing interview

ROBYN YOUNG  
for Metro Canada



What's one of the stupid-est things Ben Mulroney has ever done on the red carpet?

It was at last year's Oscars with Julian Schnabel, director of The Diving Bell and the Butterfly.

"I don't know how I forgot or why I forgot, but I forgot to say hello and ask the name of his wife," said the affable television host.

American artist and director Schnabel would not entertain any of Mulroney's questions until he recognized his mistake.

"It felt like forever, it might have been 20 sec-

The 81<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Academy  
Awards

onds, but it felt like a very long time while he just stood there and stared at me," he said with a sheepish chuckle, recalling the awkward moment.

The Academy Awards' red carpet event, the biggest and most widely televised of all, is chock full of opportunities for even the coolest cats in front of the camera to make mistakes.

But that's one of the things Mulroney, who will again be CTV's frontman at the 81st annual event Sunday, says he likes best about going live.

"I think you should show off that carpet in all of its crazy glory," he said.

After six years as Canada's red carpet guy, Mulroney said he still gets nervous, but tries not to let

his nerves get in the way of the excitement.

"I approach the red carpet as a fan more than anything," he said. "I'm not a film expert but I am a lover of the movies."

Once the actors start rolling in, Mulroney said, nerves give way to adrenaline and it's a bit of a whirlwind. He often doesn't remember who he's talked to until after the event because he's so focused on trying to ask the right questions including, of course, "Who are you wearing?"

Add in the behind-the-scenes chaos with publicists yanking the actors from one interview to the next and producers shouting commands in his ear and it becomes a bit of a circus.

There are a lot of snap decisions to be made and basically you just have to hope for the best, he said.

"Sometimes it doesn't come off as pretty, but I think that the people at home appreciate the live, anything-goes nature of that red carpet," he said.

A few of the big names he's hoping to catch this year include Kate Winslet, nominated for best actress in a leading role for her part in The Reader; Meryl Streep, also nominated for best actress for Doubt; and Gus Van Sant, director of Milk, which is up for eight Oscars including best picture.

Mulroney will be joined by etalk colleagues Tanya Kim and Elaine (Lainey) Lui who will commentate on the red carpet happenings from a balcony in front of Hollywood's Kodak Theatre.

FRIDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 2/20/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Wife Swap	Supernanny (N)		20/20
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Sarah Connor Chronicles	Supernanny (N)			Whistler
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	CBC News: the fifth estate	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)	Flashpoint (HDTV)		NUMB3RS
	6	6	6	CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	NUMB3RS (HDTV)		Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It	(10:01) Dollhouse (N)	News (N)
sports	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	Raising the Bar (N)		Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)	Flashpoint (HDTV)		News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles	(10:01) Dollhouse (N)		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It	Friday Night Lights (N)	Dateline NBC
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	World Cup of Poker		WWE SmackDown!			Score Tonight
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	That's Hockey!	NBA Basketball	Toronto Raptors at New York Knicks. (HDTV) (Live)			SportsCentre
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Payback"		CSI: Miami "Fade Out"		CSI: Miami "Rush"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	News		Mixed Blessing	Fish Out	Rabbit Fall	The Rez	La Bamba *** (1987, Biography)	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Allan King		Bravo! Fact	Books-Film	Glengarry Glen Ross (1992, Drama)	
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Good Morning	Corner Gas	22 Minutes	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live	Cooper 360
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Discovery Project Earth		Man vs. Wild "Romania"	Deranged (N)
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	House Hunters	Extreme Home	Extreme Living	Location, Loc.
	46	46	46	HIST	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	NCIS "Sub Rosa"		Shockwave		Urban Legends	Ax Men
	17	17	17	MM	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	T.I.'s Road to Redemption		Paris Hilton's My New BFF		Stealing Harvard * (2002, Comedy)	
	206	206	206	PIX	(5:30) Jackie Brown		(8:15) The Final Cut * (1995, Suspense)	Sam Elliott.			Pay It Forward ** (2000, Drama)	
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's Inquest		Testees	Kenny-Spenny
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted Dancer.		Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	In Laws	Newlywed	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		Wild Weddings (HDTV)		What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear	Incredible Wed
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	The Closer		Mona Lisa Smile ** (2003, Drama)	
	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	Prank Patrol	Spice World * (1997, Musical Comedy)	The Spice Girls.			Falcon Beach	Ghost

SATURDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 2/21/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	Wrld News Sat	Legend of the Seeker	Scrubs	Hitch *** (2005, Romance-Comedy)	Will Smith.		
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		High Adventure (2001, Action)	Thomas Ian Griffith.		Smarter Than the Rest of Us		Comedy Now
	11	11	11	CBC	Sat. Report	Hockey Night	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Toronto Maple Leafs. (HDTV) (Live)			Criminal Minds (HDTV)		NHL Hockey
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	CBS News	Paid Program	Paid Program	Without a Trace (HDTV)			48 Hr. Mystery
	6	6	6	CIHF	Currents: Breaking Ranks		Masterminds	Masterminds	Doc "Welcome to NY"		Doc "Safety First"	News (N)
sports	9	9	9	CJCH	W-FIVE (N)		Law & Order "Sweetie"		Without a Trace (HDTV)		Law & Order: SVU	News (N)
	36	36	36	FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Access Hollywood (N)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order
	55	55	55	SCOR	MMA Show	Footy Show	Poker 888.com UK Open.		BodogFight		College Basketball Oklahoma at Texas. (Live)	
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre		NASCAR Racing Nationwide Series -- Stater Bros. 300. (HDTV) (Live)					Curling: Hearts
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Shootout"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	Cooking-Wifmn	MYTV	Music Speaks	The Mix	Rez Bluez		U.S. Marshals ** (1998, Crime Drama)	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo/Videos	Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Death at-Opera	Broadway	Liar Liar ** (1997, Comedy)	Jim Carrey.
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	Blue Collar TV	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	The Situation Room		Newsroom		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live	D.L. Hughley
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Cash Cab (N)	Blast! (N)			Destroyed	Time Warp
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Colin & Justin's Home Heist		Top Design "Light It Up"		Million Dollar Listing	Extreme-Home
	46	46	46	HIST	Museum Mysteries-World		NCIS "Bloodbath"		Ancestors	Ancestors	Gridiron Gang *** (2006, Drama)	
	17	17	17	MM	America's Best Dance Crew		Stealing Harvard * (2002, Comedy)	Jason Lee.			Gossip Girl (HDTV)	Muchmsc Ctdn
	206	206	206	PIX	Wild Bunch	Stanley Kubrick: A Life in Pictures *** (2001, Documentary)					American Buffalo ** (1996, Drama)	
	39	39	39	SHOW	NUMB3RS "Primacy"		Mutant X		The Party Never Stops (2007, Drama)	Sara Paxton.		Anchorman
	40	40	40	SLICE	Beautiful	Mr. Friday	Last 10	Last 10	Party Mamas	Party Mamas	Project Runway Canada	Housewives
	21	21	21	TLC	Toddlers & Tiaras		Little People	Little People	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	My First Home	My First Home
	22	22	22	W	(5) Ghost (1990, Fantasy)		Legally Blonde ** (2001, Comedy)	Reese Witherspoon.			The Break-Up ** (2006, Romance-Comedy)	
	27	27	27	YTV	Kid vs. Kat	Kid vs. Kat	Team Galaxy	Team Galaxy	Zixx Level	Storm Hawks	Naruto	Bleach

SUNDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 2/22/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC News	The Barbara Walters Special	Oscars Red	The 81st Annual Academy Awards Achievements in film.			
	7	7	7	ASN	etalk at the Oscars (Live)			To Be Announced		Cold Case "Glory Days"		Medium
	11	11	11	CBC	Heartland (HDTV) (DVS)		Marple: A Pocket Full of Rye (2009, Mystery)			CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Who Do-Think
	32	32	32	CBS	PGA Tour Golf	News (N)	60 Minutes		The Amazing Race 14		Cold Case "Glory Days"	The Unit
	6	6	6	CIHF	16:9 Picture	King of the Hill	The Barbara Walters Special	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy	American Dad	News (N)
sports	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk at the Oscars (Live)		The Amazing Race 14	Oscars Red	The 81st Annual Academy Awards Achievements in film.			
	36	36	36	FOX	(6) NASCAR Racing Sprint Cup -- Auto Club 500. (HDTV) From Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif. (Live)							Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Dateline NBC				100 Most Outrageous Moments 2 (N)	
	55	55	55	SCOR	Score Update		The WWE Experience	BodogFight			Strikeforce	Poker
	53	53	53	TSN	Curling: Tournament of Hearts		SportsCentre	Boxing	Boxing Andre Berto vs. Luis Collazo.			Curling: Tournament of Hearts
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Cop Killer"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)	The Sopranos
	70	70	70	APTN	Great Towns	MYTV	Rez Bluez	Music Speaks	The Mix		Under Siege *** (1992, Action), Gary Bussey	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Mad Men A rift forms.		Arts & Minds	Bravo! Fact	Borradaille's Century		Inside Man *** (2006, Suspense)	
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics!	Winnipeg Comedy Festival		Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park
	18	18	18	CNN	Newsroom (Live)		Hollywood Gold Rush		State of the Union		Larry King Live	Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	MythBusters		MythBusters		MythBusters	MythBusters
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Buy Me	Extreme Makeover: Home	Real Renos
	46	46	46	HIST	Battlefield Mysteries		NCIS "Jeopardy"		Sea Hunters		The Perfect Storm (2000, Suspense)	
	17	17	17	MM	Gossip Girl		America's Best Dance Crew		T.I.'s Road to Redemption		Redemption	Pimp My Ride
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) Sleepy Hollow		Hoosiers *** (1986, Drama)	Gene Hackman.			Wild at Heart *** (1990, Drama)	
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Guard (HDTV)		A Life Interrupted (2007, Docudrama)	Lea Thompson.		Damages
	40	40	40	SLICE	Tori & Dean	Newlywed	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Til Debt-Part	Chop Shop	End of Leash	Spoiled Rotten
	21	21	21	TLC	48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence		48 Hours: Hard Evidence	48 Hr-Evidence
	22	22	22	W	The Break-Up	Hwd 10 Best	Grocery	Style by Jury	A Killing Spring (2002, Mystery)	Wendy Crewson.		Hard Time *
	27	27	27	YTV	Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties ** (2006, Comedy)				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	The Next Star	Adrenaline Proj

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Oscar watch

- Coverage of the red carpet will begin Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. on CTV. The 81st Annual Academy Awards begins at 8:30 p.m.

In brief

**TV** In advance of the 81st annual Academy Awards on Sunday, check out:

- CTV's coverage begins in the afternoon with a new episode of In Fashion devoted to trends you may see on this year's red carpet.
- Entertainment Tonight on Global will present its red carpet special at 6 p.m. EST (Note: Portions of CTV's coverage will also air on Star and FashionTelevision).





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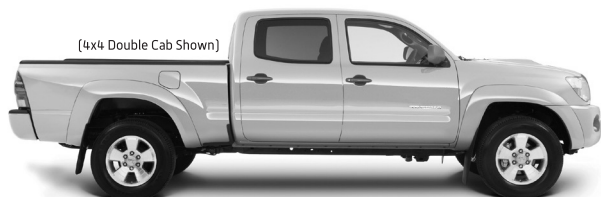
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\*\*\*Make No Payments for 90 Days when you purchase finance a new unregistered 2008 or 2009 Toyota vehicle through Toyota Financial Services. Offer applies on approved credit to retail customers who purchase and take delivery by March 2, 2009. The first monthly payment will be deferred for 60 days (until the 90th day of the contract) and finance contracts will be extended accordingly. Interest charges will not accrue during the first 60 days of the contract. After 60 days, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest over the term of the contract. ††2008 Highlander MSRP of \$34,900 based on model ES41AA-A/2008 Tundra 4x2 MSRP of \$23,825 based on model LT512A-A/2009 Tacoma 4x2 MSRP of \$25,025 based on base model TX22NM-A. Leasing/financing plans from Toyota Financial Services. \*Highlander/Tundra 4x2 Regular Cab/Tacoma 4x2 Access Cab lease based on a 48/48/48-month walk away lease and lease rate of 2.9%/2.9%/4.9% (Models ES41AA-ALT521A-A/TX22NP-B). First payment is due on delivery. Total lease obligation for Highlander/Tundra 4x2 Regular Cab/Tacoma 4x2 Access Cab of \$26,987 with \$3,035 down includes manufacturer contribution of \$500 plus taxes/\$14,736 with \$0 down includes manufacturer contribution of \$4,000 plus taxes/\$16,462 with \$2,110 down or with \$0 down \$27,168 includes manufacturer contribution of \$500 plus taxes/\$14,736 includes manufacturer contribution of \$4,000 plus taxes/\$16,704. Purchase option price of \$11,517/\$8,338.75/\$10,090.10 based on 96,000/96,000/96,000 kms. Lease includes a maximum of \$1,440/\$1,440/\$1,440 for freight & P.D.E. †Lease payments are not valid with Gas Gift Card. ††Or choose 0.9%/1.9%/4.9% financing available up to 36/60/48 months. Finance example for Highlander/Tundra 4x2 Regular Cab/Tacoma 4x2 Access Cab: \$30,000/\$20,000/\$20,000 based on 0.9%/1.9%/4.9% per annum, equals \$844.95/\$349.68/\$459.68 per month for 36/60/48 months. Cost of borrowing is \$418.20/\$980.80/\$2,064.64 for a total obligation of \$30,418.20/\$20,980.80/\$22,064.64. \*\*Gas Gift Card applicable on select 2008 and 2009 models for limited time only. \$5,000 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2008 4Runner/\$4,000 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2008 Tundra/\$3,000 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2008 Sienna and 2008 Solara/\$1,500 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2009 Camry (V6 only)/\$1,000 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2008 Sequoia/\$500 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2008 RAV4, 2008 Highlander, 2009 Corolla, 2009 Matrix, 2009 Camry (excluding V6 and Hybrid) and 2009 RAV4/\$250 gas gift card or cash equivalent on 2009 Yaris Hatchback and 2009 Yaris. All vehicle leases exclude license, registration, insurance and applicable taxes. †Highlander/Tundra 4x2 Regular Cab/Tacoma 4x2 Access Cab fuel economy based on automatic transmission. Individual dealer may sell/lease for less. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. Quantities of certain vehicles are limited and dealer trade may be required. Dealer trade availability may also be limited and will vary by model. Offers valid until March 2, 2009. See your participating Toyota dealer for details.

## Going Out

### Metro's 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven: Metro taps what's hot

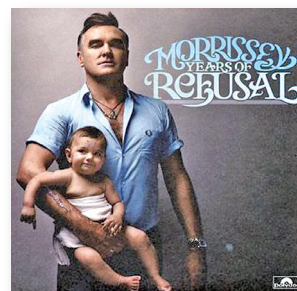
**1 Oscar time**  
**TV** Time to get the Oscar pool going and stock up on popcorn — Hollywood's biggest night is upon us. Other than the usual red carpet fanfare and onstage theatrics, the Academy's promising several surprises during this year's show (does that mean Slumdog will not win best picture?). Airs Sunday night on CTN.

**2 Duffy**  
**ARTIST** It takes a British R&B sensation to send global darlings Coldplay home empty-handed from an awards night. The 24-year-old Welsh singer topped the Brits — the island's Grammys — Wednesday, winning three awards including the coveted best new album for her 2008 release Rockferry.

**3 Religulous**  
**DVD** American funny man and rabble rouser Bill Maher collides head-on with all things God in this devilishly entertaining documentary. From the deep American South to Jerusalem, Maher's travels and encounters will make sure you have something to talk about around the office water cooler for days.

**4 The Legend of Sigurd and Gudrun**  
**BOOK** More fodder for J.R.R. Tolkien fans. Publishers Houghton Mifflin Harcourt announced this week that this thorough reworking of old Norse epics by The Hobbit author will be out this spring.

**5 The '80s look**  
**FASHION** Shoulder pads are back. So are the Robert Palmer-style second skin dresses, dark lipstick and, yes, acid-wash jeans. Reagan-era chic was big with designers Marc Jacobs, Donna Karan, Alexander Wang, Diane von Furstenberg and others as they unveiled their new collections at New York Fashion Week.



**6 The International**  
**FILM** Forget Osama bin Laden. If this taut thriller (starring Clive Owen and Naomi Watts) is to be believed, the root of all evil is ... bankers. If that's not timely, then what is?

**7 Years of Refusal: Morrissey**  
**ALBUM** The Moz is angry and that's a good thing. In Years of Refusal, the king of mope rock rages and rants against the backdrop of a tightly-honed garage band, giving us probably his most vital album since Vauxhall and I.

## Mix of Six

### National Ballet

When: Saturday, 2009  
Where: Halifax Marriott Harbourfront

This is your chance to see National Ballet principals Chan Hon Goh and Aleksandar Antonijevic perform the pas de deux from Romeo and Juliet.

### Food and wine

When: Thursday, 6:30 p.m.  
Where: Halifax Marriott Harbourfront

Wine cooking tips at the Savour Food & Wine show, which wraps up the month-long foodie festival. Tix: \$79.

### Modern Orpheus

When: Through March 8  
Where: Neptune Theatre's Studio Theatre

Poor Boy, Zuppa Circus' modern interpretation of the classic Orpheus. Tix: \$15 to \$35.

### Icewine festival

When: Until Sunday  
Where: Five Fishermen Restaurant

It's the last weekend of the Nova Scotia Icewine Festival so come by and try some frosty vino.

### Doodlebops

When: Saturday, 1 and 4 p.m.  
Where: Rebecca Cohn  
Probably not for KISS fans, but definitely fun for the under-six set: The Doodlebops bring their Together Forever tour to Halifax.

### Lots of soup for you

When: Sunday through Feb. 28  
Where: Various restaurants  
Six Halifax restaurants will compete to sell the most "hot bowl" entrees in support of Alzheimer's research.





Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart could finally be walking down the aisle — or they may have secretly done so already. The New York Post cites sources that say the two filed the paperwork for a marriage license. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Celebrity Buzz

# Liposuction led to medical mishap for Usher's wife?

**HEALTH** Usher reportedly had no idea his wife was planning to undergo plastic surgery in Brazil, according to femalefirst.co.uk.

The website is alleging the singer only discovered Tameka Raymond was having liposuction earlier this month when he received a phone call to say his wife was in an induced coma, according to In Touch Weekly magazine.

Usher rushed to the Sao Rafael Hospital in Sao Paulo, Brazil, after

learning Tameka had suffered cardiac and respiratory arrest when she was being anesthetized, it reports.

Tameka was revived with a heart massage

from the cardiac arrest in less than a minute and placed in an induced coma before being moved to the intensive care unit. She was later transferred to Sirio-Libanes Hospital — one of the best in Brazil.

After spending 11 days recovering from the incident, Tameka was finally released from hospital on Monday. A spokeswoman for the hospital refused to elaborate on her health, saying: "We do not have any more information about her condition."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



## Busy Jolie-Pitt schedule

**FAMILY** Before heading back to L.A. for the Oscars this Sunday, Brad Pitt took his boys for a little luck-generating fun in Las Vegas. Pitt was spotted at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino with sons Maddox and Pax, according to People magazine.

Meanwhile, Angelina Jolie kept daughters Zahara and Shiloh entertained in New York while she prepared for her next movie, Salt, which will film there.

The family will reunite in California for the Oscars, where both Pitt and Jolie are nominated for top awards.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Ellen and Portia preparing for kid?

**PEOPLE** Ellen DeGeneres and partner Portia de Rossi will undergo fertility treatment to start their own family, femalefirst.co.uk reports a U.S. tabloid as alleging.

DeGeneres recently revealed they were looking to step away from the spotlight and live the quiet life on a farm, once her U.S. talk show contract ends in 2010, the website adds.

Star magazine claims the couple is planning to have a biological child — and de Rossi will

soon begin in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment.

A source tells the publication, "(de Rossi) is prepared to go through it (IVF) 10 times if she has to. Whatever it takes to get pregnant, she'll do it. She's been changing her eating habits. Her goal is to gain a few pounds before they start the IVF process."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Dolly cut from Montana movie

**CAREER** Dolly Parton got cut from Miley Cyrus's movie upcoming Hannah Montana movie, us-magazine.com is reporting. "I'm not in the movie," Parton told the Associated Press. "I wish I had been."

Parton, 63, said producers asked her if she would reprise her recurring TV role as Aunt Dolly on the big screen.

"I said I would love to," she said. "I assumed that they were gonna be writ-

ing me a part."

But her character wasn't in the movie's final script, she says.

Parton is disappointed, but says kids always come up to her and say, "Hi, Aunt Dolly!"

The country singer says her decision to appear on the Disney

show was "probably the best move" she ever made because it introduced her to a new generation.

The Hannah Montana movie hits theaters April 10.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Solange's in-flight pill scare

**PEOPLE** Beyoncé's younger sister, Solange Knowles, was admitted to a hospital after suffering from an adverse reaction to Vicks NyQuil pills onboard a flight from New York on Tuesday, intouchweekly.com reports.

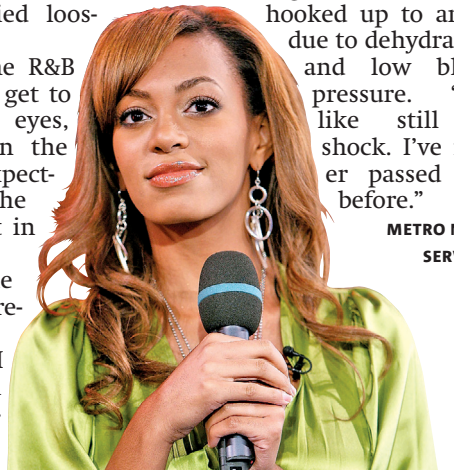
The incident unfolded in front of fans' eyes as she posted throughout the trip on her twitter.com page. "I think maybe I'm getting high off it because I'm not sleeping," said Solange. "I didn't know Nyquil could do this to you." After an

unsuccessful attempt to sleep, she added, "think I'm certified losing it."

Soon, the R&B singer did get to close her eyes, but not in the way she expected: She passed out in baggage claim, the website reports. "How'd I end up in the hospital? ...

Guess I passed out!" Solange was then hooked up to an IV due to dehydration and low blood pressure. "I'm like still in shock. I've never passed out before."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Rihanna's sales up, Brown's way down

**CAREER** Sales of Rihanna's 2007 album, Good Girl Gone Bad, have soared in the wake of her alleged altercation with boyfriend Chris Brown the night before the Grammy Awards, climbing 33 per cent since the incident,

according to E! News.

But all the press attention isn't helping Brown, whose latest album, Exclusive, continued to fall down the charts, not even registering in Billboard's top 200.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Nicollette no man-eater

**RELATIONSHIP** Nicollette Sheridan is "always looking for a man," femalefirst.co.uk reports. Although the Desperate Housewives actress — who split from fiancé Michael Bolton last year — wants to find love, she is only interested in men who will treat her well.

She said: "I'm always looking for a man. But please, only princes

should talk to me."

Sheridan insists she is nothing like her character Edie Britt in the hit show, and doesn't want potential love interests to confuse her with the man-eater.

She added to People magazine: "I'm totally different from her, and besides, she'll die next season anyway."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Wedding bells for Hayden and Rachel?

**MARRIAGE** Former The O.C. star Rachel Bilson is reportedly set to marry longtime boyfriend Hayden Christensen, though the couple haven't set a date yet. The two were engaged quietly over the holidays, a source told People magazine.

And a spy for Page Six saw the pint-sized actress on an L.A.-bound flight sporting her engagement ring. The eyewitness overheard Bilson tell another passenger, "I'm not married yet, just engaged. I know I look like I'm 15, but I'm actually 27."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



# Sheen's girlfriend rushed to hospital

**BABY** Charlie Sheen's pregnant girlfriend, Brooke Mueller, was rushed to the hospital in Los Angeles earlier this week after experiencing premature contractions, according to Us Weekly. Mueller is pregnant with twin boys, which are due in April.

The same day Mueller was hospitalized, Sheen told People magazine that the nursery they've

prepared for the tots is almost finished: "Forget being a babies' room. If I had a room like that growing up at any point, I would have been over the moon."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# 50 Cent tries hand at comedy

**CAREER** 50 Cent is looking to move into the comedy business, searching out scripts through his production company, according to Contact Music.

The rapper is reportedly eager to team up with Martin Lawrence and Seann William

Scott, whom he called "a funny man" in an interview with King magazine.

50 Cent most recently starred in Righteous Kill with Robert De Niro and Al Pacino.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**







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For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: [metronews.ca/food](http://metronews.ca/food) **Take Five**

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14				
15				16			17					
18				19								
20			21		22				23	24	25	26
			27	28			29	30				
31	32	33						34				
35					36		37					
38					39	40			41	42	43	44
				45				46		47		
48	49	50	51							52		
53						54				55		
56						57				58		

**Sudoku**

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	8						2	
	6	4	7		3	5	9	
1		5				3		7
				1	9	6		
					7			
				3	2	4		
8		9				4		5
	4	1	2		5	6	3	
	5						8	

**Crossword across**

- 1 Sceptre adornment  
4 Spinning meas.  
7 First-anniversary gift  
12 Sheepish remark?  
13 Will Smith biopic  
14 Impressive setup  
15 Recede  
16 Human-lion dragon hybrid  
18 Copper head?  
19 Villain's look  
20 Radiator noise  
22 Historic time  
23 "Bye Bye Birdie" song  
27 Frequently  
29 "Deal or No Deal" host  
31 Acid type
- 34 Spacious  
35 Way  
37 Moment  
38 Shetland, for one  
39 Midafternoon, in a way  
41 Beneficent  
45 Bread  
47 — juice (milk)  
48 Woody Allen movie  
52 Present topper  
53 Wanted-poster datum  
54 Time of your life?  
55 Work with  
56 Furrier's wares  
57 Wield a needle  
58 Conger or moray

**Crossword down**

- 1 West Indian magic  
2 Synagogue VIP  
3 Infants  
4 St. Louis squad  
5 Mars, e.g.  
6 Clementine's dad, e.g.  
7 Poker holding  
8 Joan of —  
9 Expert  
10 Anvil site  
11 Alternative to white  
17 4-Down, e.g.  
21 One of the Corleones  
23 Rap  
24 Altar affirmative  
25 Rep. rival  
26 Crafty
- 28 Adversary  
30 Exist  
31 Pump up the volume  
32 Long March leader  
33 B&B  
36 Urban disturbance  
37 Stored fodder  
40 Teeny bits  
42 Dye deeply  
43 Sue Grafton's "N"  
44 Wooden peg  
45 Church service  
46 From the start  
48 Navigation aid  
49 Hearty quaff  
50 Zero  
51 Chapeau

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

W	A	S		M	U	F	F		B	A	G	S		
A	S	K		A	G	R	A		E	M	I	T		
C	H	I	P	S	H	O	T		A	B	L	E		
				P	A	T		M	A	L	C	O	L	M
W	A	R	D	E	N			L	E	O				
E	G	O		R	U	E		I	N	F	R	A		
P	U	P	S		T	A	G		S	L	A	P		
T	E	E	T	H		R	A	M		I	C	E		
				E	A	T		S		S				
S	N	O	W	J	O	B		P	A	S				
N	O	V	A		T	R	I	P	W	I	R	E		
A	D	A	R		F	I	R	E		D	A	W		
G	E	L	T		M	E	E	T		E	Y	E		

2	9	4	6	1	8	5	3	7
3	8	6	7	5	2	1	4	9
7	1	5	4	9	3	6	2	8
4	6	9	1	8	7	2	5	3
1	3	8	5	2	9	7	6	4
5	2	7	3	6	4	9	8	1
6	7	3	9	4	5	8	1	2
8	4	1	2	7	6	3	9	5
9	5	2	8	3	1	4	7	6

**Find today's answers + play more games at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)**

<b>SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:</b>	17-21 min .....	Smart	
Under 13 min .....	Genius	21-25 min .....	Not bad
13-17 min .....	Scholar	25+ min .....	Keep practising

**Metro Recipe of the Day**



**Grilled Salmon with Relish**

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) sugar plus 2 tbsp (25 ml) sugar
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground coriander
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) cardamom
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) black pepper
- 4 salmon steaks (6 ounces each)
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) yellow mustard seeds
- 1 3/4 cup (75 ml) distilled white vinegar
- 1 zucchini, cut into 1/4-in. (0.5-cm) dice
- 1 orange or red bell pepper, seeded and cut into 1/4-in. (0.5-cm) dice
- 1 cup (250 ml) corn kernels, fresh or thawed frozen

**METHOD:**

- 1. Spray grill rack with nonstick cooking spray. Preheat grill to medium. Combine 1/4 tsp (1 ml) of

sugar, coriander, salt, cinnamon, cardamom, and black pepper in small pot. Measure out 1 1/4 tsp (6 ml) of spice mixture and rub into one side of each salmon steak.  
2. Add remaining 2 tbsp (25 ml) sugar, mustard seeds, and vinegar to spice mixture in pot, and bring to a boil over medium heat. Add zucchini, bell pepper, and corn, and cook until bell pepper is crisp-tender, about 4 minutes.  
3. Place salmon, spice-side down, on grill and cook, without turning, until just done, about 5 minutes. Serve salmon topped with relish.

**SERVES 4**

**rd.ca**

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to [rd.ca](http://rd.ca) or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

**Horoscopes**

**ARIES**  
**MARCH 21-APRIL 20**  
A relative behaves in an extraordinary manner. You can slide over a minor insult without flinching. Someone has played a game and lost.

**LIBRA**  
**SEPT 23-OCT 23**  
A man will try to make a weak justification. Take control of yourself in a confusing situation. A coercive colleague will earn unwanted attention.

**TAURUS**  
**APRIL 21-MAY 21**  
A blond will lead you out of a dilemma. Someone will back out of a promise. Unforeseen delays must be taken into account.

**SCORPIO**  
**OCT 24-NOV 22**  
An arrogant friend needs to see a specialist. Your ever reliable help is greatly appreciated. A cheater will try to influence important decisions.

**GEMINI**  
**MAY 22-JUNE 21**  
Get to the point with a supervisor. You'll have to ease fears when plans don't work out. Insulting anyone will be a remarkably bad idea.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
**NOV 23-DEC 21**  
You'll get gratitude from a satisfied caller. What seems logical to you will irritate others. You'll bite off more than you can chew.

**CANCER**  
**JUNE 22-JULY 22**  
A talented person's partner is out of control. Incomplete messages will cause distress. You'll find a way to go out and play tonight.

**CAPRICORN**  
**DEC 22-JAN 20**  
A self-indulgent person will continue to disobey. Tender thoughts will find a place in your heart. Watch out for falling objects.

**LEO**  
**JULY 23-AUG 23**  
A distressed female will demand a plan. There'll be shocking news about someone. A social climber wants to know how you feel.

**AQUARIUS**  
**JAN 21-FEB 18**  
A member of a club will settle a debate. The people in charge will solve a problem. An unrestrained person will be forced to relax.

**VIRGO**  
**AUG 24-SEPT 22**  
Romantic indiscretions are becoming obvious. Don't forget someone because you're in a rush. You can accept an invitation from a social contact.

**PISCES**  
**FEB 19-MARCH 20**  
Analyze a bad situation before saying anything about it. The truth will be revealed by chance. True friends won't stand in your way.

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GL 5-speed model shown

2009 ACCENT L 3DR



GL Sport model shown

STARTING PRICE  
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NEW SALE PRICE  
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WITH

**0%**  
 PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 36 MOS.<sup>‡</sup>

2009 ELANTRA L



GL with Sport Package shown

STARTING PRICE  
~~\$15,845~~

NEW SALE PRICE  
**\$11,995<sup>†</sup>**

WITH

**0%**  
 PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 36 MOS.<sup>‡</sup>

2009 SONATA GL



Limited model shown

STARTING PRICE  
~~\$21,895~~

NEW SALE PRICE  
**\$18,995<sup>†</sup>**

WITH

**0%**  
 PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 48 MOS.<sup>‡</sup>

2009 TUCSON L



Limited model shown

STARTING PRICE  
~~\$21,195~~

NEW SALE PRICE  
**\$18,995<sup>†</sup>**

WITH

**0%**  
 PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 48 MOS.<sup>‡</sup>

2009 SANTA FE 2.7L GL



Limited model shown

STARTING PRICE  
~~\$25,995~~

NEW SALE PRICE  
**\$21,995<sup>†</sup>**

WITH

**0%**  
 PURCHASE FINANCING FOR 48 MOS.<sup>‡</sup>

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